

Hafa Adai!

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## 12,400 vaccine doses arrive

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
justine\_nauta@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI received an additional 12,400 COVID-19 vaccine doses from both Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna Inc. last Saturday, which

will allow the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to vaccinate a total of 6,200 people.

So far, a total of 18,650 vaccine doses have already been sent to the CNMI, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The agency also states that, as of

Jan. 10, the CNMI is leading in the national percentage of how many people have gotten vaccinated. The CNMI's numbers are expected to rise even

See VACCINE on Page 4

### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

#### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

### AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Jan 10, 2021

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	7,399	5	7,404
Recovered	7,145	1	7,146
Active	129	5	134
Deaths	124	0	124
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	104,469		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	125	0	125
Traced via Travel Screening	99	0	99
Traced via Community Screening	26	0	26
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	22,633*		
Days since last community transmission	145		

\*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.



### CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Workers of Triton Company (Guam) are seen here working at the American Memorial Park's Circle of Honor. Construction is underway at the memorial to replace flag poles damaged during Super Typhoon Yutu. Work in the area surrounding and supporting the flag posts began last Monday, Jan. 4, and will be done in a few weeks.

NEIL FAMA

## Peter is confirmed as NMI's 1st female public auditor

» Oscar Babauta confirmed as member of NMHC board

FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Senate confirmed Friday the appointment of Kina Borja Peter as the public auditor of the CNMI and also confirmed the appointment of former

See PETER on Page 4



The CNMI's first female public auditor, Kina Borja Peter, poses for a photo with her family after a Senate confirmation hearing Friday.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

## 'Trips are in the CNMI's best interest'

FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Whether he took one trip or a hundred trips, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres assured that he made those trips to represent the best for the CNMI and in the CNMI's best interests.

Speaking at a radio news

briefing, Torres said his responsibility is to make sure that he represents the CNMI the best he can in places and events.

This comes soon after the House minority bloc released a 24-page report last week that detailed the on-island and off-

See TRIPS on Page 4

## Increase in fuel prices continue

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The upward trend in CNMI fuel prices continues, with oil companies in the CNMI raising prices by another 10 cents.

Mobil Oil Marianas took

the lead early Friday morning, raising the price of their Extra Fuel by 10 cents a gallon. Shell Marianas followed suit the next morning.

Gas prices went up from \$3.88 for a gallon of Extra fuel to \$3.98 per gallon.

See FUEL on Page 4

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

A jet carrying 62 people goes missing after taking off from Indonesia's capital on a domestic flight.

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### NATION

A West Virginia state lawmaker has been charged for joining the mob that stormed the Capitol.

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### ASIA

More than 360 people have tested positive in a growing COVID-19 outbreak south of Beijing.

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## Local



Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred B. Ada, seventh from right, and outgoing 16th State Board of Education's chair Janice Tenorio, eleventh from right, are joined by other educators and lawmakers at the Dandan Middle School's ribbon-cutting ceremony last Jan. 8.

JUSTINE NAUTA

## DMS gets two classrooms

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
justine\_nauta@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Dan Dan Middle School has two new classrooms that will be used for physical education and leadership core classes.

DMS principal James Sablan, who said it's "always a blessing to have additional classrooms," was joined by education officials and lawmakers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony last Jan. 8 that officially unveiled the new classrooms.

"It's always great [to have new classroom] as it's an investment in the community, in our students, in our future, in our Commonwealth, so I'm very happy and excited," Sablan said.

The two classrooms will be able to accommodate a maximum of 25 students, but with the COVID-19 restrictions and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, the classroom will be able to hold 15 students at a time right now.

Sablan said the classrooms will be used as soon as DMS welcomes back its students.

According to the Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred B. Ada of the Public School System, this project is part of efforts to enhance the quality of

CNMI education.

"I'm very proud and very happy that everybody put all of their energy together, their great minds together, and envisioned a lasting place for our students. These buildings will last 40 years, maybe 50 years, and to know that we made it for them, it's really quite an accomplishment," said Ada.

Right now, blended learning is still a go for the upcoming third semester, Ada said. That means students will be going back to campus twice a week, and will be having online classes via Blackboard Ultra for the remaining school days.

"Bottom line is, we're bringing everybody back to the campus, but with the COVID-19 protocols in place, we want to make sure that, again, safety is optimal [while] at the same time providing institutional quality education to our students," said Ada.

The two new classroom were made possible through a Road Development grant, according to outgoing Board of Education chair Janice Tenorio, adding that, the buildings cost \$750,000 to build. Tenorio's last day as chairwoman was on Jan. 8, and the BOE will be selecting a new chairperson today.

## \$5K bail set for man in assault case

The Superior Court has imposed a \$5,000 cash bail on a man who allegedly punched another man after finding him in his girlfriend's bedroom.

Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan imposed a \$5,000 cash bail on Vincent Q. Terlaje for a pushing and punching another man at an apartment in Koblerville last Dec. 3, 2020.

Bogdan remanded Terlaje to

the custody of the Department of Corrections. The defendant was ordered to return to court on Jan. 12 at 9am for his arraignment.

Terlaje, who was charged with disturbing the peace, and assault and battery, was represented by the Public Defender's Office while assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government. (Kimberly A. Bautista)



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## OIA awards NMI \$250K to combat coconut rhino beetle

The CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources, through the CNMI Office of the Governor, has received a \$250,000 grant from the Office of Insular Affairs' Technical Assistance Program for ongoing efforts to combat against the invasive coconut rhinoceros beetle threat, which

was first discovered on the island of Rota in October 2017.

Much needed equipment, additional staffing, and supplementary outreach is proposed to protect the CNMI's diverse ecosystem. Rota continues to combat this invasive species, with the following impacted areas: Southwest - Tweeksber-

ry Beach Park, Paupau (Liyo), and Small Island and Southeast - Talakhaya, Gagani, Poña Point, Gua'a and along the Okgok stream. The southeastern impacted area was identified this past September and Small Island this past November. The discoveries of new CRB affected zones,

outside the initial containment sites, have raised concerns and prompted urgent discussions on the CNMI's response strategy. The new infected areas comprise well over 241 acres (978,000 square meters) and is more densely forested than the original site.

Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony T. Benavente and CNMI Invasive

Species coordinator Frank LG Aldan visited the island upon discovery of the newly affected southeastern region and met with Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, DLNR-Rota resident director David M. Calvo, and CRB field supervisor Mark C. Manglona. Discussions to heighten current measures and adopt new eradication and prevention methods were arranged to execute a plan of action on Rota. With the advice and support from Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, additional funding was sought out to assist with the proactive and immediate response planned.

This new funding awarded from OIA will greatly aid in furthering all coconut rhinoceros beetle detection, eradication, and prevention efforts.

Atalig expressed his gratitude to OIA for the administration's prompt response to Rota's call for need and for the continual support, which has allowed the CNMI to initiate and further its eradication efforts.

"Rota is at a significant turning point where efforts, especially human resources, must be increased to prevent irreversible devastation caused by the coconut rhinoceros beetle. Through close collaboration with its CNMI and federal partners, the Municipality of Rota plans to remain proactive and steadfast as it prioritizes this issue," said Torres.

Torres further thanked the Office of Grants Management for assisting DLNR with the CRB Emergency grant proposal and for providing technical support for Rota's several federally-funded projects. **(PR)**

## Attao is speaker pro tem at organizational session, Villagomez is floor leader pro tem

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Lawmakers will be sworn in today to the 22<sup>nd</sup> CNMI Legislature in an extraordinary by-invitation event that is closed to the public in a nod to COVID-19 social distancing protocols.

Marking this event's extraordinary nature was Friday's coin toss—the first time to happen in the CNMI Legislature's history—in order to decide on who will serve as speaker pro tempore (temporary speaker) during today's organizational session.

Rep. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan) proposed the coin toss last Friday after talking it over with the rest of the Democrat/Independent team. Re-elected Edwin K. Propst was present at the discussions.

Sablan said yesterday that they proposed to settle the

question of speaker pro tem by coin toss if the first vote came to a 10-10 tie, or there is no majority.

The Democrats nominated re-elected Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) to be the speaker pro tem, while the Republicans nominated re-elected Rep. and former Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Attao.

Re-elected Rep. Richard Lizama (D-Saipan) volunteered his quarter for the coin toss. House legal counsel Joseph Taijeron did the coin toss.

Going by alphabetical order, Attao went first and called heads.

Attao won.

Sablan said they then all agreed by consensus that Villagomez would be floor leader pro tem in today's session.

Sablan described the coin toss as "kind of funny but was very collegial."

She said there were con-

cerns on both sides when the House legal counsel stated that, in theory, a speaker pro tem could serve indefinitely in a temporary capacity.

"So once we agreed on both sides that the pro tem would only preside for the inaugural session, deciding by coin toss seemed like the most amicable way to go," Sablan said.

The inaugural ceremonies will begin with the House of Representatives at 10am. The Senate will follow at 11am.

For the House, Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro will administer oath of office for the 20 members. For the Senate, it will likely be Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja.

After adoption of interim House rules, House members will elect a speaker, vice speaker, and floor leader.

Perry John P. Tenorio and House clerk Linda B. Muna

will serve as masters of ceremony.

At the Senate, Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) is expected to be elected president. The senators will also elect a vice president, a floor leader, and a legislative secretary.

The Legislative Bureau said the inaugural event will be televised live on Docomo Cable, Channel 23, and will be streamed live on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/cnmilegislature> in their respective chambers.

It's a suspense at the House as the question of which bloc will be the majority is still as toss-up between the traditionally dominant Republican Party and a resurgent Democratic Party.

At the last Nov. 3 general elections for the House race, eight Democrats, nine Republicans, and three independents won.



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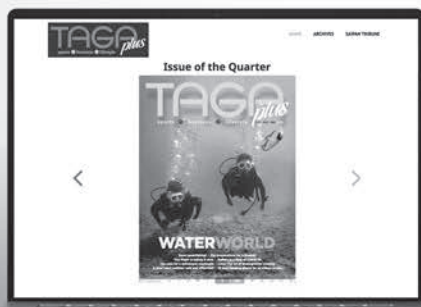
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# Second COVID-19 relief package to provide aid to CPA

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The second COVID-19 relief package that was recently passed would ensure additional aid for the Com-

monwealth Ports Authority.

In an interview with CPA board chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds, she said CPA expects to receive additional relief to aid in the continued operation of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan

International Airport.

CPA does not know yet when or how much they will receive this time but King-Hinds said the amount will be lesser than what they received from the CARES Act but it will still

## Dog beaten in broad daylight, clings to life

**GUAM**—On the afternoon of Friday, Jan. 8, a man was seen beating a dog unconscious with a log in Anigwa. The dog is in critical condition as authorities search for the suspect. The incident occurred at 5pm along the beachfront across from the U.S. District Court of Guam. Witnesses saw a man, believed to reside in a nearby homeless encampment, standing over a small dog.

"I saw him raise a very large stick, a log, over his head. Then he smashed it down and we heard the dog scream," said one witness. "The dog was at his feet. It couldn't move." Witnesses describe pleading with the man to stop. "He kept angrily yelling back that he owned the dog and can do whatever he wants," said the witness. The man then lifted the dog by just its hind legs, and carried its limp body into the homeless encampment.

Shortly after, more witnesses observed two men dumping the body in an abandoned vehicle. They rescued the 30-pound dog, who was bleeding from the eyes and struggling to breath. The dog was rushed to a local veterinary clinic, where

he remains in critical condition. It is still unknown whether the dog will survive, and if so, whether he will regain the ability to see. Witnesses and nearby residents are shaken by the incident, and are organizing to assist Guam Police Department in eliminating the violent crime that has recently increased in the area. They have also named the dog Tyson, because he's a fighter who clung to life against all odds.

Numerous studies confirm a high correlation between animal abuse and other forms of violent crime, particularly domestic violence. "Violence is violence. One day it may be directed at an animal, the next day it could be a human. We need to hold violent criminals accountable before they hurt or kill again," said Gabe Baker, board member of Guam Animals In Need.

Baker also owns and operates Carlson Gracie Jiu Jitsu Academy, located near the location of the attack. "We won't ignore crimes like this. Our community will work with GPD to report these criminals and bring them to justice," he said. "We thank the many people who are willing to come



Tyson is in critical condition. It is uncertain if he will recover.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

forward and report these crimes. Together, we can hold violent people accountable and protect our island." GPD is searching for the attacker, whom witnesses describe as a man in his late 30's or early 40's, of medium build and very aggressive. Anyone with information about the crime is urged to contact Guam Crime Stoppers at 477-HELP (4357) or guam.crimestoppersweb.com. (PR)

## VACCINE

From Page 1

more as Tinian and Rota are expected to receive their doses this week.

Speaking at the radio briefing last Jan. 8, CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña stated that a total of 7,800 COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and BioNTech have arrived, while 4,600 doses have arrived from Moderna Inc.

Muña also confirmed that vaccinations for those who fall within Phase 1A, which includes health care workers and first responders, continued this past weekend.

CHCC assures that the CNMI will get enough doses that will help vaccinate the entire CNMI population, which is roughly around 55,000 people.

"It's just we don't know when we're going to get [the additional vaccines]. The numbers do change, and, again, I believe that was antici-

pated because of the requirement of having a phased approach in distributing the vaccines. So that's why we have Phase 1A, 1B, and 1C and then Phase 2, and the two is the general population," said Muña.

Warren Villagomez, who chairs the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, stressed that it's important that those who have received their first doses do not miss their second shot.

"Please be mindful that [the] appointment schedule that's given to you needs to be followed. ... The call center is also reaching out to folks for callbacks to remind them as well," said Villagomez.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres himself has already received his second dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 last Jan. 9. "I feel good with a sense of relief that I'm taking this for my family and our Commonwealth. I continue to encourage our entire community to get vaccinated through our phase-based rollout. I thank [Muña, Villagomez], the support

staff, call center, registration team, and, of course, our doctors and nurses for their hard work and dedication," said Torres in Facebook post on the CNMI Office of the Governor's official page.

In that same Facebook post, Torres stated that the CNMI's mass vaccination approach is a combination of maximizing existing health care resources at CHCC and proactive procurement for necessary resources like medical tents for the Medical Care and Treatment Site that's positioned outside the main hospital and cold storage units for the vaccine.

Additionally, the approach is further strengthened by the collaboration with private sector partners and an effective public information campaign, built on CHCC's public health educational outreach.

The CNMI's vaccination strategy is predicated on the existing whole-of-community approach that was initiated since the beginning of the pandemic, said Torres.

blan (D-Saipan) and then-Rep. Franklin Babauta (Ind-Saipan), Reps. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Richard Lizama (D-Saipan), Sheila Babauta (D-Saipan), and Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota).

Torres said he would like to see a copy of the report so he would be able to comment accurately but he also pointed out that it is part of his job as governor to represent the CNMI and he just want to make sure that he represents the CNMI in the best light in whatever trips he takes.

government at least \$490,000 in airfare, per diem and stipends, lodging, ground transportation, boat transportation, fuel, and incidentals

The minority bloc members noted that, because Torres nearly always traveled with companions, including his wife, personal security detail, other staff, and other officials at government expense, the total actual cost of executive travel during the period in review is significantly greater.

The report was signed by House minority leader Rep. Christina Sa-

be necessary relief for the agency.

CPA received about \$22.8 million from the CARES Act. That aid, King-Hinds said, provided relief that covered the cost for personnel, operations, and debt obligations.

It was thanks to the CARES Act funding and quick action taken by the board to implement austerity measures that the CNMI Airport managed to continue operations amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, King-Hinds added.

"We have been able to avoid a reduction-in-force because of our quick action to implement austerity measures and the funds received under the CARES Act," she said.

In terms of austerity measures, King-Hinds said measures remain in place, with all CPA staff still working on reduced hours. "The austerity measures adopted by the board

remains in effect for all employees. So we are still operating on reduced hours [except] for those critical employees that are required to support essential operational functions on an as-needed basis," she said. "While some agencies are back to a full 80 hours, our employees have been on 64 hours in anticipation of the drastic decline in revenue as a result of the halt of the tourism industry."

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, all CPA employees were reduced to a 64-hour work schedule effective March 29, 2020.

Back on Feb. 14, 2020, the board approved a 72-hour work schedule for all employees, reducing by eight hours the work-hours of employees per pay period.

CPA estimated a total revenue loss at \$6,478,735 in 2020 due to flights suspensions.

## FUEL

From Page 1

Mobil's Supreme fuel is now \$4.43 per gallon.

The lowest price of fuel in the CNMI before the government shutdown as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic was \$3.83. Gas is now 15 cents higher than pre-COVID days.

According to motorist who requested that he be named only as Juan, the increase in gas prices shouldn't come as a shock anymore. "Everything is increasing now so gas prices will also increase. I should

have bought plenty of gas while the gas was like \$3," he said.

Another motorist said she didn't even notice that gas prices increased. "I never realized gas was always changing. I just buy the same amount of gas that I always do and if the gas gauge goes up, then I'm good" she said.

According to various media outlets, gas increases are happening as people return to work, with COVID-19 protocols gradually loosening.

During the heat of the COVID-19 pandemic, quarantine was implemented in various states so fewer people were driving to work and less gas was consumed.

## PETER

From Page 1

House speaker Oscar M. Babauta as a member of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. board of directors representing Saipan.

All senators, except Francisco M. Borja who was present at the session, voted "yes" to the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations to confirm Peter as CNMI public auditor and Babauta as NMHC director.

EAGI committee chair Francisco Q. Cruz said the committee members are convinced that the two have the qualifications and leadership skills necessary to serve their positions, based on the overall assessment of Peter's and Babauta's credentials, experiences, testimonies, goals for agency and department, and other relevant issues considered.

With respect to Peter, Cruz said all written and oral testimonies provided to the committee (22 written testimonies and three oral testimonies) unanimously supported her and that there were no written or oral testimonies in opposition.

Pertaining to Babauta, the senator said there were three written testimonies that supported him, seven oral testimonies that supported him, and no written or oral testimonies in opposition.

Peter, who becomes the first female public auditor of the CNMI, said in an interview that she excited with her confirmation. "I'm looking forward to really diving into focus areas for the office and prioritizing

for this next calendar year as well as fiscal year in terms of looking at our budget and how we can best restructure our office so that we can continue to support the mandate of our office," Peter said.

The House had already confirmed Peter's appointment.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios appointed Peter last Nov. 25 to replace outgoing public auditor Michael Pai, who was appointed by then-governor Benigno R. Fitial and served for the last 12 years.

Peter is a former senior finance leader, senior accountant, senior manager, and accounting manager for Boeing.

Peter is a certified public accountant, licensed in the State of Washington and has over 20 years of accounting experience with Deloitte, a big four audit firm in the CNMI and Seattle, Washington and most recently for Boeing Company.

Meanwhile, Babauta stated after the EAGI committee confirmed him last week that he is cognizant of the mandates of NMHC.

Babauta said the need for NMHC to fulfill its goals were never more apparent than after Super Typhoons Soudelor and Yutu, and Typhoon Mangkhut, which all ravaged and destroyed the islands in the Marianas.

"The need to increase homeownership that is decent, safe, and sanitary for persons of low to moderate income, for the elderly, and those with disabilities still exist," said Babauta, who served as House speaker during the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

Torres and Palacios appointed Babauta last Dec. 17.

## TRIPS

From Page 1

island trips that Torres has taken from January 2015 to July 2020.

The governor said he has not seen that report.

According to the report that the House minority bloc submitted to the House of Representatives last Wednesday, the records they reviewed show that Torres has so far taken 102 trips that cost the CNMI



## 9TH LAW AND THE FRESHMAN LEGISLATOR PROGRAM

### Freshmen lawmakers get an overview of judicial process

The CNMI Judiciary, in coordination with the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, conducted the 9th Law and the Freshman Legislator program at the U.S. Dis-

trict Court last Thursday. The program, held biennially since 2004 for incoming legislators, provides an overview of the judicial process and gives the legislators a rare opportunity to interact in one setting with all 10 federal and CNMI judges and justices.

Senator-elect Edith E. Deleon Guerrero and representatives-elect Roy Aldan Ada, Celina Roberto Babauta, Vicente Castro Camacho, Leila Fleming Staffler and Denita Kaipat Yangetmai, all from Saipan, were in attendance. The two new legislators from Tinian, senator-elect Karl R. King-Nabors and representative-elect Patrick H. San Nicolas, registered for the program but did not attend. Rota has no new legislator this cycle.

Justice John A. Manglona moderated the program, which

began with a presentation by Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro on the Covenant and the U.S. and CNMI constitutions. Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona of the U.S. District Court for the NMI presented on the topic of statutory interpretation.

The legislators discussed the role of the courts with a panel of judges and justices.

Hyun Jae Lee, who is general counsel of the CNMI Judiciary, gave a presentation on basic legal research. The program concluded with a roundtable where the judges and justices answered questions from the newly elected legislators.

Deleon Guerrero said she learned many lessons that will guide her when enacting legislation and was grateful for the opportunity to learn from justices and judges. "I am most



After a program session, the newly-elected lawmakers joined the justices and judges in the courtroom of Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona at the recently opened federal courthouse in Gualo Rai for a commemorative photo. First row, from left, Rep.-elect Vicente C. Camacho, Rep.-elect Leila F. Staffler, Rep.-elect Celina R. Babauta, Rep.-elect Denita K. Yangetmai, Sen.-elect Edith E. Deleon Guerrero, and Rep.-elect Roy A. Ada. Back row, from left, Justice John A. Manglona, Judge Joseph N. Camacho, Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona for the NMI District Court, Justice Perry B. Inos, and Judge Kenneth L. Govendo. Not in photo are Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja, Judge Wesley M. Bogdan and Federal Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## New PUA applications on hold until NMI gets USDOL's OK

The CNMI Department of Labor is informing the public not to submit any PUA paper applications or online applications for the new Pandemic Unemployment Assistance extension, until official approval from the U.S. Department of Labor has been received.

CNMI DOL will notify the public once USDOL approval is official.

CNMI DOL recently attended a webinar conducted by the USDOL regarding the new Continued Assistance Act of 2020. USDOL provided an overview of the new program dates and key program requirements for the coordination of the PUA and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation programs.

Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente said there are additional changes in the new COVID-19 legislation, which the CNMI will be required to follow in order to participate in these programs.

"There are also new requirements such as states must provide a method for employers to report individuals who refuse to return to work or refuse to accept an offer of suitable work. Once the department receives approval to begin accepting PUA applications, we will be issuing an announcement with detailed instructions and requirements," said Benavente.

For further information, contact the PUA Call Center at 322-8870, 322-8871, 322-8873, 322-8874, 322-8876, 322-8877, 322-8878, 322-8879, or 322-8880.

Inquiries may also be emailed to [info@puamarian-as.com](mailto:info@puamarian-as.com). (PR)



### DFS DONATION

DFS Saipan Ltd. presents a check donation in the amount of \$10,000 to the Commonwealth Cancer Association. From left, Jack Salas, Loss Prevention manager; Cesar Dumatol, treasurer, CCA board of directors; Juan L. Babauta, CCA executive director; Aaron Yobech, Product Support assistant; Jomari Pico, assistant general manager, Sales; Esther Ada, HR manager; Jamika Tajeron, shop operations manager; Bo T. Palacios, CCA board president; Andy Qin, Product Sales manager; and Billy Cheung, acting general manager.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

and carry out the intent and spirit of both documents," she said.

"I appreciate the program and that the judges advocate for their agency and their staff," Ada said. "The event provided insight on the operations of the Judiciary and I look forward to working with them in the future."

Echoing similar sentiments, Staffler said she looks forward

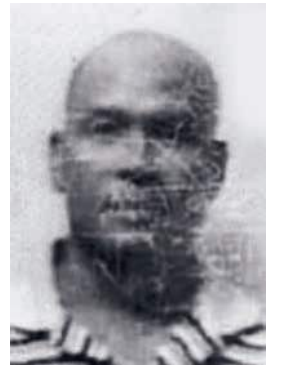
to connecting with the Judiciary and working together as separate but equal branches of government. Staffler described her experience as "eye-opening and embracing." "I enjoyed brainstorming ways to improve our Commonwealth."

The Northern Mariana Islands Judiciary Historical Society sponsored this year's program. (PR)

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the general public that Mr. Roberto "Rob" Lusito is no longer connected with Sagittarius Corporation dba as Sagittarius General Construction effective January 1, 2021.

Any business transaction made by him on the company's behalf will not be honored by the aforesaid Company. Please report any such unauthorized transaction to our contact numbers at (670) 235-4796 / 785-4796 or email us at [sagittarius1197@gmail.com](mailto:sagittarius1197@gmail.com).



MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122  
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC  
POST OFFICE BOX 5222  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TEL: (670) 234-6547  
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF SAIPAN, : CIVIL ACTION  
Plaintiff, : NO. 01-0044  
:- :  
LUIS A. SASAMOTO :  
Defendant. :

### NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on December 15, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

**Legal description of the property:**  
Lot no. 060 T 02, situated in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands

**Total area of the property:**  
5,000 square meters

**Known encumbrances:**  
None

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale will be held on Monday, January 18, 2021, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. Copies of a title insurance report for the properties are available to any prospective bidder upon request.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.** The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 18th day of December, 2020:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer



## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND WEBEX MEETING JANUARY 19, 2021

### U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Honolulu Regional Office - Public Contact Team

Will host a Virtual Benefits Workshop for Veterans, Family Members, Surviving Spouses, and Community Providers

on

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021

From

5:00PM-7:00PM (CNMI LOCAL TIME)

To participate please join us in Cisco Webex by clicking or copying and pasting the following link:

**\*\*DOWNLOAD SLIDES AT: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/honolulu/>\*\***

<https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=me95a0a0b8f74a712b4bec1b0b740b676>

You can join via Computer, Phone Audio (1-404-397-1596, 1991699053##), or Webex Mobile App

Benefits Workshop Topics:  
Compensation, Pension, Education & Training, DIC, Survivor Benefits, Loan Guaranty, Veteran Readiness & Employment, Burial and Plot Internment Allowance, Burial Flags, & Insurance

### Blue Eagle Enterprises, LLC, is accepting application for: 20-11-88108 ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

No. of Opening: One (1)  
Salary Range: \$41.00 hourly  
Job Classification: Engineering Occupations  
Job Duties: Prepare computation of electrical, technical drawings, specifications for electrical systems; prepare specifications for purchase of materials/equipment; estimate labor, material and construction costs for budget purposes, plan control, and direct operations of multi-venture enterprises led by electrical construction contracting business.

### Qualification Requirements:

Must be a graduate of B.S. Electrical Engineering, five years work experience in related field. Must be familiar with computer systems for electrical design and drawings. Knowledge of practical application of engineering, science and technology, effective reasoning, problem solving and communication skills, management and supervisory experience in business. Interested applicants may email their comprehensive resume with employment certificates, college diploma or transcript of records to [blue\\_eagle\\_enterprises@yahoo.com](mailto:blue_eagle_enterprises@yahoo.com) or may call telephone number (670) 233-3839 from Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Temporary closure of AMP Court of Honor

The American Memorial Park management would like to inform the public that the Court of Honor will be closed to the public for several weeks. Construction is underway at the memorial to replace flag poles damaged during Super Typhoon Yutu. After the new poles are installed, the park looks forward to once again flying the flags of the Navy, Marines, Army and Coast Guard—honoring all those who fought bravely on these island shores and surrounding seas during World War II. (NPS)

### Tuesday’s jury selection cancelled

This is to inform all prospective jurors on panel “17MS” that the jury selection scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021, at

8:30am and 12:30pm is hereby cancelled until further notice. For further information, contact Clerk of Court Patrick Diaz at Superior Court at 235-4258. (PR)

### 2 from Saipan graduate from Concordia U

Kimberly Babauta and Isaac Tenorio, both from Saipan, have earned their Master of Education degrees at Concordia University in Nebraska. Babauta and Tenorio were two of 626 students who were conferred undergraduate and graduate degrees this fall 2020 semester at Concordia University. (PR)

### SINMI monthly meeting on Thursday

The Sorooptimist International Chapter of the Northern Mariana Islands will hold its monthly luncheon meeting Thursday,

Jan. 14, at 12pm noon at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan’s World Café Buffet. The cost of the luncheon is \$17. The Club is also accepting new members! Join us to help continue our work for the “Best for Women” in the CNMI! (PR)

### ‘Medicazre and You; handbook now available

The Medicare & You 2021 handbook is now available for pickup at theyour congressional district offices of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. This handbook contains everything you need to know about your Medicare coverage, including information on changes to Medicare this year. You can also access an electronic version of the handbook at <https://www.medicare.gov/pubs/pdf/10050-Medicare-and-you.pdf>. (PR)

### Public warned of beach hazards

The public is being warned of a high risk of rip currents and Indo-Pacific men-o-war jellyfish through 6am today, Monday. Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, Indo-Pacific man-o-war will be present along northeast, east and southeast facing beaches, while dangerous rip currents will be present along east facing reefs. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from shore into deeper water. Contact with man-o-war, alive or dead, can cause extreme pain. The public is being warned to avoid venturing out along east facing reefs. Strong rip currents will be life threatening. Swim-

mers should remain out of the water. (PR)

### Montessori@Home is now accepting new students

Montessori@Home invites families with children between the ages of 2-1/2 to 6 years of age to contact us regarding unique and special learning opportunities for your children. M@H’s one to one individualized instruction can jumpstart your child’s love of learning. M@H provides supplemental in-home learning opportunities for young children using the Montessori method and materials. Our experienced Montessori Early Childhood Guide is certified by the American Montessori Society. She has 16 years of experience working with children between the

ages of 6 weeks to 6 years with 10 of those years using the Montessori Method to teach young children. For more information, contact Diana Silveira at (670) 789-4122 or email [mahlearning-pods@gmail.com](mailto:mahlearning-pods@gmail.com). (PR)

### Guam tax refunds out

HAGATNA, Guam—The Department of Revenue & Taxation has processed and the Department of Administration will mail 1,391 2019 tax refund checks this week. The checks total approximately \$3,194,124, including refunds garnished to repay government debts, for error-free returns filed on or before July 11, 2020. For inquiries, contact us via the Contact Us section of our website or at [pinadmin@revtax.guam.gov](mailto:pinadmin@revtax.guam.gov). (PR)

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21-016

Opening Date: December 11, 2020  
Closing Date: Until Filled

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	Technical Manager for Oil
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Petroleum Compliance Office
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
<b>ANNUAL SALARY:</b>	\$56,439.00 to \$96,657.60 per annum, Exempt
<b>CONTRACT:</b>	Contracted
<b>POSITION(S):</b>	One (1)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (“CUC”) is seeking for a qualified Technical Manager for Oil (“TMO”). CUC is a public utility corporation located on the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

Reporting directly to CUC’s Executive Director (ED) or designee, Technical Manager for Oil (TMO) fills a position required by the Stipulated Order (SO) of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Executive Director or his/her designee.

**Duties:**

- He/she is responsible for Environmental, Health, Safety, and Security compliance at the CUC facilities.
- The Technical Manager for Oil will have authority to make decisions for management and operations of the oil related items required by the Stipulated Order and will be primarily responsible for assisting the Executive Director in overseeing all environmental assessment and cleanup projects, all oil spill prevention initiatives, preparedness and response operations and compliance activities and deliverables, on a daily basis as required by the Stipulated Order.
- The TMO shall be the person responsible for maintaining regular contact with staff and contractors regarding Section 311CWA compliance issues and will support the Executive Director in management and operations decisions for the oil related items required by the Stipulated Order.
- Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- The Technical Manager for Oil further develops and executes programs to ensure effective identification and management of the Environmental, Health, Safety, and Security risks posed by CUC’s Operations and businesses, as well as seeking opportunities to deliver both operational integrity and wider benefits to CUC via sustainability initiatives.
- The post holder is expected to enhance the management of risk in the CUC business stream and working with the Management team, use appropriate leadership processes and behaviors to mitigate risk.
- The role will encompass the implementation of EHSS programs including training, raising awareness, managing audits, reporting CUC EHSS compliance, providing technical expertise and support to CUC Management team as required.
- The TMO will be in-charge of training, enforcement and in operational issues having to do with environmental, health, safety, and security compliance.
- Other duties of a similar nature or level as assigned or required.

**Minimum Requirements:**  
Successful candidates for CUC’s Technical Manager for Oil must have the following:

**Education:** Completion of four (4) years of college, or its equivalent, with major work in engineering, science, industrial hygiene, or other field related to work with project management and/or environmental compliance, and one (1) to three (3) years of experience with oil spill prevention, preparedness and response, environmental assessment, construction oversight or power plant operations. Applicant must have an exceptional knowledge of U.S. Environmental laws and regulations pertaining to oil; knowledge and understanding of the contracting process. Good skills and experience working with regulators such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Coast Guard.

In addition the Technical Manager for Oil must demonstrate the following: Proven management and communication skills, demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff in the realm of health, safety, security and environmental awareness; experience with managing environmental and/or construction projects during periods of planning, design and construction. Further, the TMO should have experience with the following: oil, oily water, water sampling and testing, International Air Transport Association (ATA) certified to ship petroleum samples, oil storage, use, transportation and disposal; assessment and cleanup of contaminated sites; environmental compliance; development of statement of work, oversight of contractors; staff training and development; and federal oil spill prevention, preparedness and response requirements. Further the TMO shall have the experience in conducting various training seminars, and recordkeeping for training and deferral compliance.

**Knowledge of:** Leadership principles; Supervisory principles; Strategic planning principles; Budgetary principles; Project management principles; Applicable laws, rules and regulations.

**Skills in:** Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Preparing and administering budgets; Developing and administering strategic plans; Managing large, complex projects; Giving presentations; Preparing technical reports; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

**Licensing:**

- o Valid CNMI Driver’s License with appropriate class.
- o A Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator’s Certification is desired, but not mandatory.

**Relocation Expenses:**  
If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

**How to Apply:** Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: [employment.applications@cucgov.org](mailto:employment.applications@cucgov.org)

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21-017

Opening Date: December 11, 2020  
Closing Date: Until Filled

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	Deputy Executive Director
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Executive
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
<b>ANNUAL SALARY:</b>	\$120,000.00 to \$135,000.00 per annum, Exempt
<b>CONTRACT:</b>	Contracted
<b>POSITION(S):</b>	One (1)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (“CUC”) is seeking for a qualified Deputy Executive Director (“DED”). CUC is a public utility corporation located on the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical island consisting of fourteen islands with Saipan, Rota, and Tinian the only islands with a population. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

Reporting directly to CUC’s Executive Director (ED) or designee, the Deputy Executive Director (DED) fills a position required by the Stipulated Order (SO) of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Executive Director or his/her designee.

**Duties:**

- Primarily responsible for overseeing, all drinking water and wastewater operations and compliance activities and deliverables, on a daily basis, as required by the Stipulated Order. Responsible for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding CWA and SDWA compliance issues. Has authority to make decisions for management and operations of the drinking water and wastewater systems.
- Supervises and directs Water & Wastewater lead staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- Provides management assistance to the Executive Director to include: coordinating activities between CUC and outside organizations and agencies; researching and preparing recommendations on operational directives; and, preparing and presenting reports.
- Assumes full management responsibility over divisions as delegated by the Executive Director. Plans, directs and coordinates work of divisions through department heads by meeting with management to identify, prioritize and resolve problems.
- Directs and implements maintenance plans; evaluates maintenance programs to ensure maintenance standards are enforced.
- Participates on a variety of boards and committees and attends a wide variety of management meetings.
- Serves as the Executive Director when the Executive Director is out of the CNMI.
- Responsible for short and long-range strategic planning and

**Minimum Requirements:**  
Successful candidates for CUC’s Deputy Executive Director must have the following:

**Education:** Master’s degree in management, engineering, finance or public administration, or, in the alternative, a bachelor’s degree in engineering and registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branch.

**Experience:** Senior management experience of at least ten (10) years desired in similar wastewater and drinking water utility (combined utility is preferred), with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resources needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training, and implementation needs.

**Must demonstrate:** Proven management and communications skills; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff; Experience with managing major water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; Experience with water and wastewater systems, user fee system development, bond funding, staff training and development, and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.

Experience with user fee system development and bond funding is desired, but not mandatory.

**Knowledge of:** Leadership principles; Supervisory principles; Strategic planning principles; Budgetary principles; Project management principles; Applicable laws, rules and regulations.

**Skills in:** Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Preparing and administering budgets; Developing and administering strategic plans; Managing large, complex projects; Giving presentations; Preparing technical reports; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

**Licensing:**

- o Valid CNMI Driver’s License with appropriate class.
- o A Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator’s Certification is desired, but not mandatory.

**Relocation Expenses:**  
If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

**How to Apply:** Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: [employment.applications@cucgov.org](mailto:employment.applications@cucgov.org)



# Ohala Foundation exec accepted to Stanford

Tasi G. Long, who is vice chairperson of the Tinian-based Ohala Foundation, has been admitted to Stanford University's Class of 2025.

A foundation statement said that Long received the news of his acceptance a week before Christmas.

"Looking back and reminiscing about all the late-night studying and after-school extracurriculars that I took part in, I can finally say that it was all worth it," said Long. "Many people tend to dream and aspire to do great things

in the future, and that's completely fine, but one must not forget that there is a toll to pay to achieve those dreams. My advice is to pay that toll, it'll be worth it in the end."

Ohala Foundation chair Phillip T. Mendiola Long, who is Tasi Long's father, said, "The entire Ohala Foundation is immensely proud of Tasi for such an amazing achievement. Many of us knew he had the character and drive to become a Stanford student as we see his work and passion for the foundation every day. As

parents, Arley and I couldn't be more proud of him. Every parent wants their children to have more opportunities and to be better than them in every way. Tasi has definitely shown us he is on a pathway to run circles around us and that makes us smile with pride."

The foundation statement said the entire Ohala Foundation board of directors wishes Tasi Long success in his goals and is proud to have him continue to represent the CNMI and the foundation.

This wasn't Tasi Long's

first contact with Stanford. According to the foundation statement, he wrote to Stanford in 2010, when was just 9 years old, and told them he was going to Stanford when he graduates from high school.

"Stanford actually wrote him back a month later letting him know that they look forward to his application in 2020 and they included a mini Stanford pennant from the school," the statement added.

According to the online site College Transitions, Stanford University, with its 4.3% acceptance rate, "is even more selective than MIT, Caltech, Harvard, Princeton, Yale, or Columbia." (PR)

## NMC spring 2021 semester begins next week

Northern Marianas College is reminding individuals who are seeking to advance their education or their professional careers that they can apply for and register for the college's spring 2021 semester. Registration is ongoing throughout this week. The first day of classes is on Jan. 19, 2021.

Individuals who need financial aid can also apply for the Federal Student Aid program, which provides financial assistance to those who meet certain eligibility criteria.

Applications for admission and other forms may be picked up at NMC's Office of Admissions & Records located in Building N at the NMC As Terlaje campus, or may be downloaded from [www.marianas.edu](http://www.marianas.edu). Supporting documents (i.e. transcripts from institutions previously attended, health evaluation form, and copy of a valid photo I.D.) must be turned in within 60 calendar days of submitting the admission application.

New students are required to take the math and English placement tests. A schedule of the placement test dates can be found at [www.marianas.edu](http://www.marianas.edu). Students can also make an appointment to take placement tests by calling 237-6774. New and readmitted students must also view the online stu-

dent orientation program in order to register for courses.

NMC offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science degree in education (emphasis in elementary education, early childhood education, special education, or rehabilitation and human services), bachelor of science degree in business management (emphasis in accounting), associate of arts degree in business, associate of applied science degrees in business administration (emphasis in accounting, business management, or computer applications), associate of arts in liberal arts (emphasis in education, health and physical education, and social work), associate of science in nursing, natural resources management, associate of applied science in criminal justice, and hospitality management.

For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6769/70/71/72 or visit [www.marianas.edu](http://www.marianas.edu). (PR)



### COLLEGE NOW

Northern Marianas College and the Public School System recently signed the "College Now" dual enrollment agreement that allows high school students to begin earning credit in high school. From left, CNMI Board of Education vice chair Herman M. Atalig, outgoing BOE chair Janice Tenorio, BOE members Andrew Orsini and Antonio Borja, Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada, NMC regent Irene T. Torres, NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico, NMC regents Michelle Lin Sablan and Zenie Mafnas, and NMC Board of Regents chair Charles Cepeda.

NMC

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to our princess, Mikaella Laison. Mom, Dad, Aate, and Kuya wish you, a happy birthday. We love you!

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

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### INVITATION FOR BIDS

#### CUC-IFB-21-007

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#### FINA SISU WATERLINE REPLACEMENT (W16-051)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Fina Sisu Waterline Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline and lateral service line; connection to the existing waterline; relocation of water meters from private property to right-of-way, installation of gate valve assembly, flush hydrants, fire hydrants, air release valves, existing laterals service tap relocation to new main waterline, restoration of existing asphalt concrete road, restoration of existing concrete slab on grade; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

**This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.**

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **December 28, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-21-007s, Fina Sisu Water Line Replacement", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 14, 2021**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Bids shall be accompanied by a bid guarantee of not less than fifteen percent (15%) of the amount of the bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 4, 2021** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Mr. Dennis Formalejo, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email [dennis.formalejo@cucgov.org](mailto:dennis.formalejo@cucgov.org) and Ms. Christie L. Sablan, CUC's Senior Administrative Technician via email [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any non-material imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

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### REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES (RAES)

#### CUC-RAES-21-008

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#### CONSULTANT FOR INTEGRATED RESOURCE AND OTHER UTILITY PLANNING & OTHER SERVICES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for a Consultant (Project Engineer) from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for Professional Services for the development of studies and the ultimate expansion of Power Plant #1 and Design, Build and Construction of a New Power Plant in Lower Base on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Proposers for this RAES must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Scope of Work (SOW) of the RAES may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one RAES package set.

**One (1) Non-Priced Proposal & One (1) Priced Proposal** marked "CUC-RAES-21-008, CONSULTANT FOR INTEGRATED RESOURCE AND OTHER UTILITY PLANNING & OTHER SERVICES" must be submitted via email to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Senior Purchasing Technician via email [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org) no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on February 11, 2021**. **Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.**

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAES does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAES and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

The selection of an A&E firm for the award of a contract will be by a committee appointed by the CUC Executive Director for this purpose, which will evaluate responses to this solicitation. Selection shall be made in accordance with CUC Procurement Regulations §50-50-305 regarding Architectural and Engineering Services. Discussions shall be conducted with at least 3 of the responding firms (or less if fewer than five firms respond) regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made therefrom. Based on the scoring criteria outlined herein, only the three most highly qualified firms shall be invited to discuss further the firm's qualifications and project approach outlined in the scope of work.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project will be entertained only for pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 22, 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Technician, Senior via email [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator



# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR  
jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com

**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## The way forward for America

**P**resident Donald Trump's decision to skip President-elect Joe Biden's Jan. 20 inauguration ceremony disrupts yet another tradition in this country's historic, peaceful transition of power. In this case, it is a tradition worth breaking to avoid the distraction and potential security risk Trump represents.

Consider Trump's absence from the transition-of-power formality one more defining moment in an unprecedented era of defining moments for the country. The outgoing president, supported for reelection by some 74 million voters, is reduced to an intrusion. He is a public safety hazard. A cannon so loose he cannot be trusted with basic ceremonial duties.

Even his supporters might be relieved by his decision to stay away on Jan. 20. The country is in a collective state of shock and exhaustion following a week of alarming upheaval and violence inside the Capitol. The news of another death attributed to Wednesday's siege, Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who was allegedly smacked with a fire extinguisher, adds to the anger and bewilderment—and continues to narrow the target of responsibility. For more than an hour preceding the violence, Trump goaded his rallying supporters directly, repeating his "stolen election" claims and encouraging them to fight and to go to the Capitol:

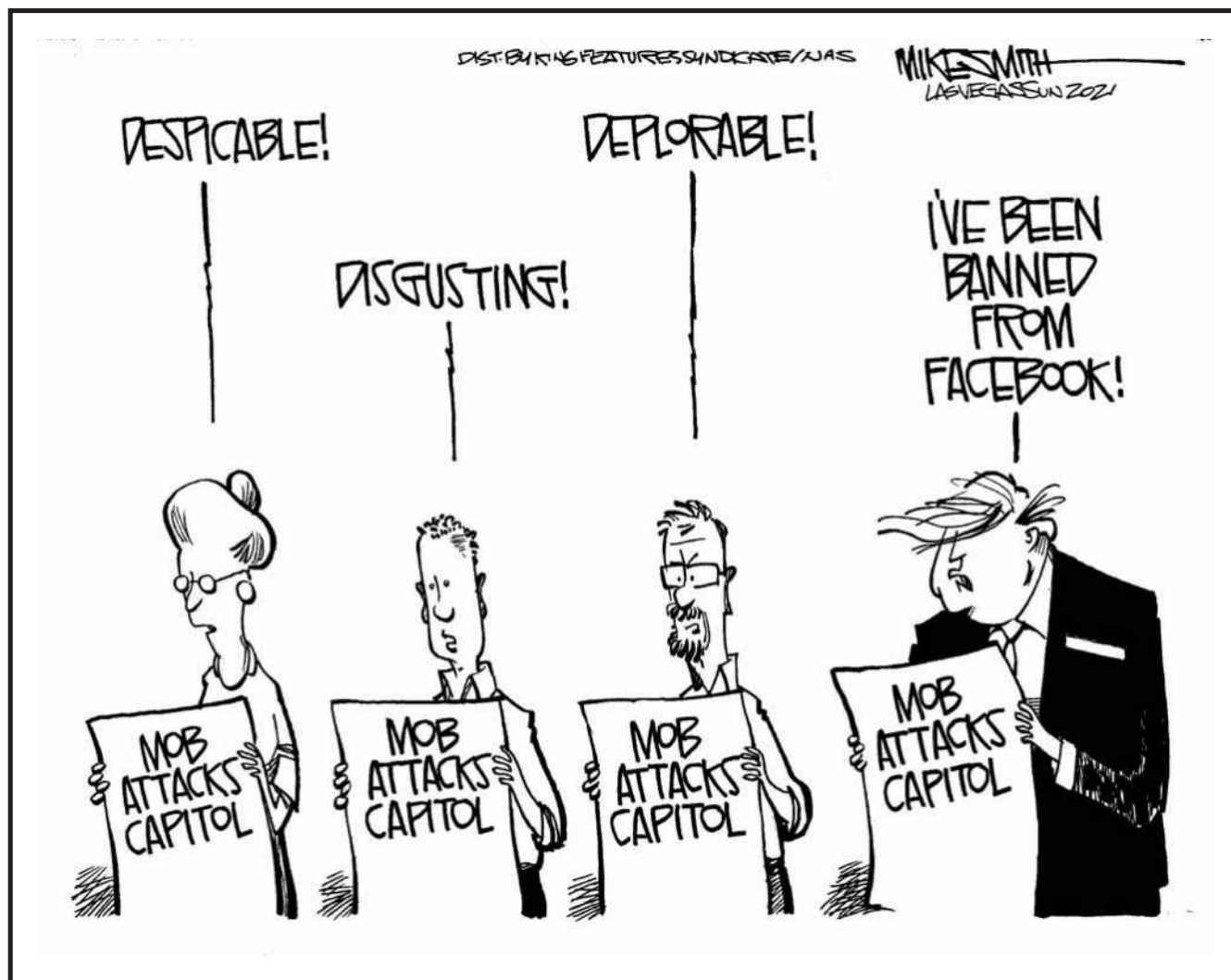
"All of us here today do not want to see our election victory stolen by emboldened radical left Democrats, which is what they're doing, and stolen by the fake news media. That's what they've done and what they're doing. We will never give up. We will never concede, it doesn't happen. You don't concede when there's theft involved."

We consider Trump's actions Wednesday to be nullifying to his right to serve as president and commander in chief, even in his final days. He should be removed from office, as we wrote, whether via the 25th Amendment or impeachment. Or he should resign. Whenever his term of office concludes on the calendar, the result is infamy.

So Trump will leave the White House. But what then? Is it possible to shape this moment as a lesson against political extremism and intolerance? Can Trump supporters continue their activism by supporting candidates—bold outsiders, yes, with conservative views on government, the courts, immigration—but reject incendiary rhetoric? Is it possible for the far left of the Democratic Party to apply this moment as a coolant too?

This jolt to democracy doesn't have to be the end of the "Trump era" in the way his supporters fear it will. Trump may still seek to be a political force. But this could be the start of a new movement with new leadership for the Republican Party, new appreciation for the power of language, and new respect for returning to greater diplomacy on all sides. That includes elected officials, the media, the pundits and the ratings-obsessed cable news networks. It includes the special interest groups, organized labor leaders, rank-and-file citizens, so-

See **AMERICA** on Next Page



## Trump's rage ignites mob assault on democracy

**N**EW YORK (AP)—The riotous mob that laid siege to the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday was the product of the destructive forces that President Donald Trump has been stirring for years, culminating in the disruption of a democratic ritual that would formally end his unconstitutional bid to stay in power.

The scene that unfolded—pushing through police barricades, breaking windows, then occupying seats of power—was one that Americans are accustomed to watching in distant lands with authoritarian regimes.

But the violence, which included gunshots fired in the Capitol, one death, and an armed occupation of the Senate floor, was born from the man who swore an oath to protect the very democratic traditions that rioters tried to undo in his name.

The rioters chose to storm the Capitol, a building symbolic as a citadel of democracy, and stirred echoes of the the angst and blood of the Civil War era. Only this time it was instigated by a duly elected president unwilling to honor the foundational creed of a peaceful transfer of power.

"This is an attempted coup d'état incited by the President of the United States," said presidential historian Michael Beschloss. "We are in an unprecedented moment when a president who is willing to conspire with mobs to bring down his own government. This is totally against the idea of democracy for which the nation has stood for over two centuries."

The certification of the Electoral College votes that formalizes President-elect Joe Biden's victory, a Constitutionally-enshrined ceremony typically designed to show American democracy's strength, was disrupted within hours of Trump's incendiary demand for action in a speech to his supporters, as he implored them to "fight" to stop the "steal" of the election and march on the Capitol.

"After this, we're going to walk down—and I'll be there with you—we're going to walk down, we're going to walk down to the Capitol," Trump said, "and we're going to cheer on our brave senators and congressmen and women, and we're probably not going to be cheering so much for some of them."

As his presidency enters its final days, Trump's speech was a valedictory that seethed with anger, and roused those who took it as a call to insurrection. Rioters overran and over-matched Capitol security forces, breaking windows, stealing mementos and mocking the institution with photos showing

By **JONATHAN LEMIRE**  
Associated Press

Jonathan Lemire has covered the White House and politics for The Associated Press since 2013.



them in seats of power.

One in the mob seized House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's dais, another her office. A sea of red "Make America Great Again" hats stormed through Statuary Hall, a part of the Capitol familiar to tourists. One man carried a Confederate flag under the same rotunda where Abraham Lincoln—and, just last year, the congressman and civil rights hero John Lewis—had lain in state. A noose was photographed not far from the Capitol's west front.

And the inauguration stand where Biden will put his hand on a Bible in two weeks was used by U.S. Capitol Police to fire pepper spray into the violent crowd.

Few escaped Trump's rage—not even his most loyal lieutenant, Vice President Mike Pence, who had, for once, said he could not honor the president's wishes that he overturn the electoral vote count because there was no legal authority for him to do so.

At his rally on the Ellipse, Trump said he would be "very disappointed" in his vice president, who a short time later had to be whisked to safety by the Secret Service when the Capitol's barriers were breached.

But the groundwork for the violence was laid far before the rally, which also included a call from the president's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, for a "trial by combat" to settle accusations of election fraud.

Trump, who has long shied away from committing to a peaceful transfer of power, spent the better part of 2020 declaring that the election was "rigged" while making baseless accusations of widespread voter fraud that numerous federal courts and his former attorney general said did not exist.

The president was enabled by dozens of his fellow Republicans, who said they were willing to object to the count, a maneuver

See **TRUMP'S** on Page 11



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

## Geopolitics in the Marianas? Let me explain...

*Buenas yan hafa adai.*

Thank you for taking the time to read this introductory national and international security column. This column is being written because Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and the rest of the Marianas Islands are experiencing a historic pivot toward becoming the most militarized island chain and region on the planet. With this comes some benefits along with some tremendous costs to our ancient and present-day Marianas Islands home. We are seeing history unfold today because the Marianas Islands and the Western Pacific region are being used by the United States to aggregate, train, test, research, evaluate, position, employ, deploy, and prepare for war across the spectra of conflict and violence. The ongoing militarization of the Marianas Islands covers several domains to include the undersea, sea level, land, terrestrial subsurface, air, space, information, and cyber. The militarization of the Marianas is all-encompassing, conventional, paramilitary, unconventional, contractor and subcontractor driven, touching all strands of Chamorro villager and island society to include political, economic, social, cultural, environmental, linguistic, agricultural, and educational realms and behaviors.

Our ancient Chamorro civilization and home isles have become from one point of view, a priceless American collection of resources located in a key part of the world because of the Marianas' relative proximity to East Asia, which is the world's center of economic power and home to South Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan and Japan, all key American allies, and partners. Our island chain supports American led multilateral cooperative operations to help the United States fulfill its security commitments in the region and beyond, yet what gets lost in many conversations is that the Chamorro people of the Marianas have sacrificed and continue to sacrifice rare resource corridors, without having real and equal say and political decision-making power on matters of war and peace on our own ancient island chain.

Today, America and China are engaged in a great power competition, with our beautiful island chain and region being caught in the middle. North Korea continues to produce medium and long-range missiles for use against our islands, key American allies, and the United States homeland. American overseas contingency operations and national security policy directives cre-

ated in Washington, D.C. translate into local domestic policy challenges and mission-oriented actions such as anti-access and area denial operations. Military decisions made by the Chinese government also directly affect the Marianas and the broader Micronesia region through the Chinese government's Maritime Silk Road initiatives.

With all these developments happening, now is the time to begin to expand the national security discussion amongst ourselves—the Chamorro people and villagers—and to further demystify international security matters because it affects us all, directly, and indirectly. This column hopes to help take away any magical thinking on matters of American national security, international security, and geopolitics so that we can collectively develop a better basic understanding of what's happening.

Over the next several columns, we will begin to further explore how American militarization has affected us all, and then we will move into a broad discussion of geopolitics to further demystify our total environment.

This column hopes to see more people talking about national security and international security, geopolitics, generating new questions and seeking new answers in an uncertain and ever-changing environment. For some, national security is something that is unclear, vague, overwhelming, scary, confusing, or complex, while for others it is something they like and understand.

Guam and the Northern Marianas are deeply colonized islands and American political and military colonialism has affected the colonizing administering authority—the U.S., American military and intelligence personnel, and the target population, the Chamorro people of the Marianas. It cannot be overemphasized that talk about American national security isn't complete until it fully incorporates, wrestles with, challenges and fully addresses a broad list of ongoing insular and village security concerns that remain unresolved, under discussed or omitted. Some topics that come to mind include freshwater availability and sustainability challenges, food insecurity, medical access insecurity, job insecurity, veteran's affairs insecurity, waste generation insecurity, land taking injustices, cost of living and inflation insecurity, and political representation and decolonization insecurity.

The Marianas Islands has an especially dark legacy of environmental contamination and insecurity from military actions

**'RICK'S COLUMN'****By RICK PEREZ**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Rick Perez used to serve in the U.S. military and has work experiences in public policy research and public affairs. He is passionate about national security and geopolitics and runs a newsletter called Guam Affairs at [guamaffairs.substack.com](http://guamaffairs.substack.com). For questions or comments, contact Perez at [rckp7839@gmail.com](mailto:rckp7839@gmail.com).*

that remains taboo to talk about. Guam, Saipan, and Tinian were extensively damaged from war. Post war military actions heavily contributed to this undesired and poisonous outcome. Yet throughout all these years and despite the lack of transparency provided by the national government, Pacific Islanders have persevered, and have been able to somehow manage through monumental change, demonstrating the resolve and resilience of our families.

But today things are different and national and international security stakes are higher. China is already knocking on our regional doorstep and decades of undisputed control of the Western Pacific for the United States is over. China, Russia, North Korea, and the U.S. are currently engaged in a massive arms race that creates new risks, new dangers and new opportunities for major miscalculation that could lead to hot war. Many risks are not known or well understood.

It is with this in mind, that we have a strong incentive to continue to better understand for ourselves, the geopolitics in our region and better understand for ourselves how the United States national security community thinks about our island chain and our people because the Western Pacific is where America's day is supposed to begin and, according to the Chinese, where the second island chain is supposed to begin. Now is the time to recommit more time toward thinking and focusing on where the Marianas Islands' day is supposed to begin and how it fits into this geopolitical pressure cooker.

**AMERICA**

From Page 8

cial media users.

It includes us all. What has become acceptable commentary and behavior—harassing political opponents at home and at restaurants, engaging militias at local protest marches and more—would have been considered unthinkable and obscene by most standards and norms not too long ago. We need a reset button.

No one will be in a tougher position than Biden to glue together what is possible, to navigate ideological splits in his own party and to convince Trump voters he is their president too. Ushering out Trump is the assured part. Dealing with deep divisions and distrust among the American people is the more formidable mission. The anger that led to violence at the Capitol will not disappear with the inauguration of a new president.

What can happen, we hope, is a meaningful lowering of arms in this nation's culture wars and its politics. A renewed effort at finding common ground in the way previous administrations did it—the sweeping policy changes of government entitlement programs enacted by President Bill Clinton, then-House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a Democratic administration and a GOP-controlled Congress, for example.

Because what is clear is we cannot proceed further on this trajectory of political outrage and thrashing. Our safety and security as a country, and our sacred democratic traditions, depend on taking a smarter path.

**TRUMP'S**

From Page 8

ver they knew would delay but not change the outcome.

Even when it became clear he had lost the election, Trump refused to acknowledge reality, insisting repeatedly that he had won in a landslide. He lost to Biden by 7 million votes.

But his supporters were more than willing to accept his effort to subvert the verdict of voters.

Just weeks ago, he tweeted: "Big protest in D.C. on January 6th. Be there, will be wild!" And even after the siege began, and members of his own party—including some trapped in the Capitol and hiding for their lives—begged him to forcibly condemn the act of domestic terrorism, Trump refused.

He spent most of the afternoon in his private dining room off the Oval Office, watching the violence in Washington on a large mounted television, though most of his attention was fixated on Pence's disloyalty.

He reluctantly taped a video in which he called for "peace" and told the rioters to "go home," but he bracketed his request with further false claims of election fraud and told the insurrectionists: "We love you. You're very special."

In a tweet, rather than directly criticizing the mob, he offered an apologia for them. "These are the things and events that happen when a sacred landslide election victory is so unceremoniously & viciously stripped away from great patriots who have been badly & unfairly treated for so long." And he encouraged them to "remember" the day as though it would someday be seen as a celebration rather than a riot.

The post was later removed by Twitter.

His words were a remarkable contrast to the man who defeated him and one who came before him.

"At their best, the words of a president can inspire. At their worst, they can incite," said Biden in an address to the nation from Delaware. "The work of the moment and the work of the next four years must be the restoration of democracy and the recovery of respect for the rule of law, and the renewal of a politics that's about solving problems—not stoking the flames of hate and chaos." He implored Trump to "step up." Trump did not.

George W. Bush, the most recent Republican president, declared that the "Insurrection could do grave damage to our nation and reputation."

"The violent assault on the Capitol—and disruption of a Constitutionally-mandated meeting of Congress—was undertaken by people whose passions have been inflamed by falsehoods and false hopes," Bush said.

Trump has long been slow to condemn violent extremism, refusing to denounce white supremacists, cheering armed protesters at the Michigan state capitol last spring and telling the far right Proud Boys to "Stand back and stand by."

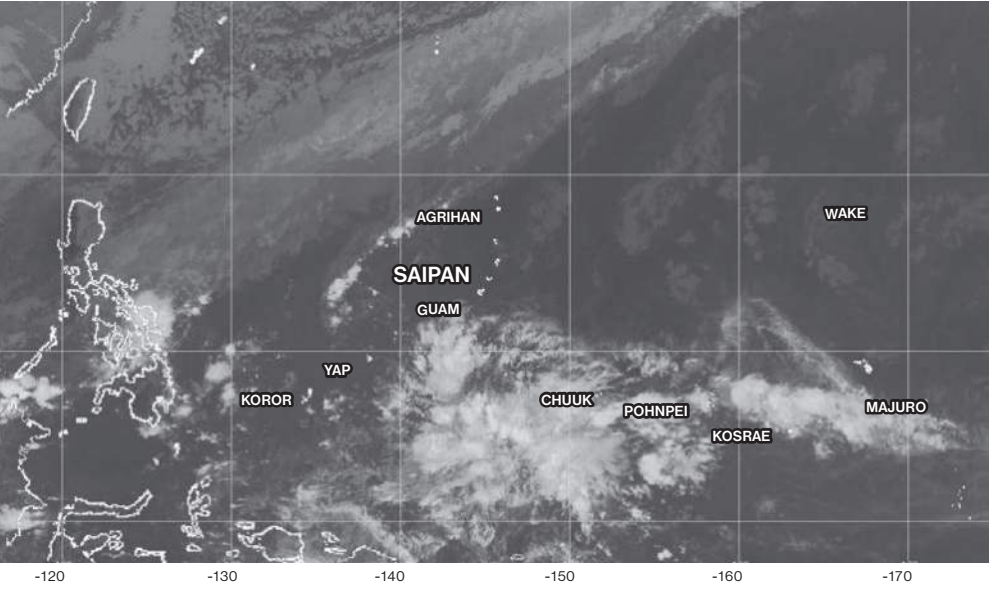
The U.S. Capitol was breached Wednesday for the first time since 1814, when the British attacked it and set it on fire during the War of 1812, according to the U.S. Capitol Historical Society. And the moment of internal strife, one fueled by the president, "can only be reminiscent of the Civil War," according to presidential historian Julian Zelizer.

"This is an attack on the government," said Zelizer, who teaches at Princeton University "The president has been stoking divisions and he called for this protest, he called for this chaos. We have never been here before."



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
Partly cloudy. Isolated light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy. Isolated light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy. Isolated light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
86°	77°	86°	77°	86°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 8:14 AM, SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The Marianas is now in a dry season trade-wind pattern that looks to continue for the next several days. A very weak trade-wind trough moving through the region today will only bring a slight increase in showers over the islands, with the bulk of the showers associated with this trough remaining to the south of Guam waters. Otherwise, only isolated light showers are expected Monday through at least midweek.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

## STOP THE SPREAD

**T**he Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

**Continue good hand hygiene**

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

**Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

**Rumor control**

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	84° / 77°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	84° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	83° / 79°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:45 AM	6:03 PM
Tuesday	6:46 AM	6:04 PM
Wednesday	6:46 AM	6:04 PM
Thursday	6:46 AM	6:05 PM
Friday	6:46 AM	6:06 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	4:32 AM	4:05 PM	-
Tuesday	5:36 AM	5:05 PM	-
Wednesday	6:37 AM	6:06 PM	-
Thursday	7:33 AM	7:06 PM	-
Friday	8:24 AM	8:04 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	72° / 60°	
Beijing	Sunny	36° / 11°	
Hong Kong	Cloudy	54° / 46°	
Honolulu	Sunny	81° / 69°	
London	Mostly Cloudy	43° / 40°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	74° / 49°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	84° / 73°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	95° / 62°	
Miami	Cloudy	75° / 69°	
New York	Sunny	41° / 30°	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	46° / 36°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	40° / 36°	
Busan	Cloudy	40° / 27°	
Rome	Showers	51° / 38°	
Salem	Showers	49° / 39°	
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	58° / 44°	
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	29° / 11°	
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	46° / 34°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	45° / 26°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:02 AM	Low Tide	-0.59	
7:19 AM	High Tide	1.67	
12:18 PM	Low Tide	1.10	
5:17 PM	High Tide	1.83	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2020							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:55am	7:35am	1, 4, 6	UA174	5:10am	5:51am	1, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:55am	9:50pm	1 via Guam	UA184/174	10:40pm	5:51am+1	3, 5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5	UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 5
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
				1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO GUAM				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
				2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
				2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
				2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
GUAM TO ROTA				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable				

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# Business

## Indonesia jet carrying 62 goes missing in domestic flight

**JAKARTA, Indonesia** (AP)—A jet carrying 62 people lost contact with air traffic controllers minutes after

### Job losses fall unequally in US

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Ten months into America's viral outbreak, low-income workers are still bearing the brunt of job losses—an unusual and harsh feature of the pandemic recession that flattened the economy last spring.

In December, the nation shed jobs for the first time since April. Once again, the layoffs were heavily concentrated in the industries that have suffered most because they involve the kind of face-to-face contact that is now nearly impossible: Restaurants, bars and hotels, theaters, sports arenas and concert halls.

With the virus transforming consumer spending habits, economists believe some portion of these service jobs won't return even after the economy has regained its footing. That trend will likely further widen the economic inequalities that have left millions of families unable to buy food or pay rent.

Typically in a recession, layoffs strike a broad array of industries—both those that employ higher- and middle-income workers and those with lower-paid staff—as anxious consumers slash spending. Economists had worried that

taking off from Indonesia's capital on a domestic flight on Saturday, and debris found by fishermen was being exam-

ined to see if it was from the missing plane, officials said.

Transportation Minister Budi Karya Sumadi said Sriwijaya Air's Flight SJ182 was delayed for an hour before it took off at 2:36 p.m. The Boeing 737-500 disappeared from radar four minutes later, after the pilot contacted air traffic control to ascend to an altitude of 29,000 feet (8,839 meters), he said.

The airline said in a statement that the plane was on an estimated 90-minute flight from Jakarta to Pontianak, the capital of West Kalimantan province on Indonesia's Borneo island. The plane was carrying 50 passengers and 12 crew members, all Indonesian nationals, including six extra crew for another trip.

Sumadi said a dozen ves-

sels, including four warships, were deployed in a search-and-rescue operation centered between Lancang island and Laki island, part of the Thousand Islands chain just north of Jakarta.

Bambang Suryo Aji, the National Search and Rescue Agency's deputy head of operations and preparedness, said rescuers collected plane debris and clothes that were

found by fishermen. They handed the items over to the National Transportation Safety Committee for further investigation to determine whether they were from the missing plane.

A commander of one of the search-and-rescue ships who goes by a single name, Eko, said that fishermen found cables and pieces of metal in the water.

### Squelched by Twitter, Trump seeks new online megaphone

**BOSTON** (AP)—One Twitter wag joked about lights flickering on and off at the White House being Donald Trump signaling to his followers in Morse code after Twitter and Facebook squelched the president for inciting rebellion.

Though deprived of his big online megaphones, Trump does have alternative options of much smaller reach. The far right-friendly Parler may be the leading candidate, though Google and Apple have both removed it from their app stores and Amazon decided to boot it off its web hosting service. That could knock it offline for a week, Parler's CEO said.

Trump may launch his own platform. But that won't happen overnight, and free speech experts anticipate growing pressure on all social media platforms to curb incendiary speech as Americans take stock of Wednesday's violent takeover of the U.S. Capitol by a Trump-incited mob.

Twitter ended Trump's nearly 12-year run on Friday.

In shuttering his account it cited a tweet to his 89 million followers that he planned to skip President-elect Joe Biden's Jan. 20 inauguration that it said gave rioters license to converge on Washington once again.

Facebook and Instagram have suspended Trump at least until Inauguration Day. Twitch and Snapchat also have disabled Trump's accounts, while Shopify took down online stores affiliated with the president and Reddit removed a Trump subgroup. Twitter also banned Trump loyalists including former national security advisor Michael Flynn in a sweeping purge of accounts promoting the QAnon conspiracy theory and the Capitol insurrection. Some had hundreds of thousands of followers.

In a statement Friday, Trump said: "We have been negotiating with various other sites, and will have a big announcement soon, while we also look at the possibilities of building out our own platform in the near future."



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SUBMISSION DATE: JANUARY 25, 2021 • TIME: 09:30 A.M.

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P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962  
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# Nation

## State lawmaker charged after entering Capitol with rioters

**CHARLESTON, W.Va.** (AP)—A Republican West Virginia state lawmaker has been federally charged for entering a restricted area of the U.S. Capitol after he livestreamed himself rushing into the building with a mob of President Donald Trump's supporters.

Ken Kohl, a top deputy federal prosecutor in Washington, announced the case against state Del. Derrick Evans on a call in which he presented dozens of new charges against members of the crowd that violently stormed the Capitol on Wednesday.

Evans, 35, appeared before a federal judge in Huntington, West Virginia, on Friday afternoon after being arrested. If convicted, he faces up to a year and a half in federal prison for two misdemeanors: entering a restricted area and disorderly conduct.

Federal Magistrate Judge Cheryl Eifert released him on his own recognizance. Wearing a hoodie and a face mask to protect against the coronavirus, Evans did not answer reporters' questions as he left the courthouse and quickly got into a vehicle.

A growing number of Republicans and Democrats said they want to expel Evans from the legislature if he does



not resign. His lawyer, John Bryan, said late Thursday that the lawmaker was acting as an amateur journalist recording the day's events and that he was not involved in violence. He said Evans didn't commit a crime and doesn't plan to step down. Bryan didn't comment

on the charges Friday.

Video from television station WSAZ showed FBI agents escorting the handcuffed lawmaker from a home.

"He's a fine man. And thank you, Mr. Trump, for inviting a riot at the White House," a woman identifying herself as

Evans' grandmother told station reporters as her grandson was being taken into custody.

Legislators from at least seven other states traveled to Washington, D.C., to back Trump and demonstrate against the counting of electoral votes confirming Demo-

crat Joe Biden's victory.

It's unknown if any other elected official joined the attack on the Capitol.

In Tennessee, legislation was introduced Friday that would require state authorities to investigate any resident who participated in Wednesday's events. The proposal from Democratic state Rep. London Lamar also states that any "seditious and treasonous acts" at the U.S. Capitol by an elected official

**AP**  
West Virginia Delegate Derrick Evans exits the Sidney L. Christie U.S. Courthouse and Federal Building after being arraigned on federal charges Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, in Huntington, W.Va.

would constitute grounds for immediate removal.

The legislation comes days after Republican Tennessee state Rep. Terri Lynn Weaver attended the demonstrations, which she described as "epic." It's unclear if Weaver entered the Capitol.

Evans joined and encouraged a crowd unlawfully entering the Capitol after days of telling his 30,000 Facebook followers to "Fight For Trump" in D.C. on Wednesday, FBI agent David DiMarco wrote in a criminal complaint.

Before the rush to the Capitol, Evans posted a video in which he said, "They're making an announcement right now: If Pence betrays us you better get your mind right because we're storming that building," the charging documents state. He then laughs and adds, "I'm just the messenger, so don't be hating on me."

In a now-deleted video that was widely shared online, Evans is seen clamoring inside a jam-packed Capitol building doorway, trying with others to push his way inside. He hollers along with other Trump loyalists and fist-bumps a law enforcement officer who let them in.

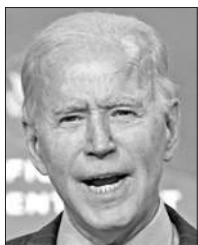
## Biden calls Trump 'unfit' but doesn't endorse impeachment

**WILMINGTON, Del.** (AP)—President-elect Joe Biden says that President Donald Trump isn't "fit for the job," but he repeatedly refused to endorse growing Democratic calls to impeach him a second time.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a letter to members of her chamber that lawmakers could move as early as next week to impeach Trump for inciting a violent mob that overran the U.S. Capitol if the president didn't "immediately" resign. Pelosi and Democratic Senate leader Chuck Schumer also have called

on Vice President Mike Pence and the Cabinet to invoke the 25th Amendment to force Trump from office—a process for stripping the president of his post and installing the vice president to take over.

Addressing reporters in his home state of Delaware after an event Friday introducing some of his Cabinet choices, Biden noted that a key reason he ran for president was because he'd "thought for a long, long time that President



Biden

Trump wasn't fit for the job."

"I've been saying for now, well, over a year, he's not fit to serve," Biden said. "He's one of the most incompetent presidents in the history of the United States of America."

But he refused to back efforts to remove Trump from the White House and insisted that impeachment was up to Congress. Instead, Biden said he was focused on the start of his own administration on Jan. 20, and he said his top

three priorities are beating back the coronavirus, distributing vaccines fairly and equitably, and reviving the struggling economy.

His comments laid bare the political balance Biden has worked to strike in the months since winning the presidential election. He has continued to sharply criticize Trump and nearly every facet of his administration but also worked to keep the public's attention focused on what the new administration will do rather than indulging recriminations against the last one.

## With virus surging, Biden to speed release of COVID vaccines

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—With COVID-19 surging and vaccinations off to a slow start, President-elect Joe Biden will rapidly release most available vaccine doses to protect more people, his office said Friday, a reversal of Trump administration policies.

"The president-elect believes we must accelerate distribution of the vaccine while continuing to ensure the Americans who need it most get it as soon as possible," spokesman T.J. Ducklo said

in a statement. Biden "supports releasing available doses immediately, and believes the government should stop holding back vaccine supply so we can get more shots in Americans' arms now."

Biden's plan is not about cutting two-dose vaccines in half, a strategy that top government scientists recommend against. Instead, it would accelerate shipment of first doses and use the levers of government power to provide required second doses in a

timely manner.

The Trump administration has been holding back millions of doses of vaccine to guarantee that people can get a second shot, which provides maximum protection against COVID-19. It's seen as a prudent approach, since both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require a second shot after the first vaccination.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar raised questions about Biden's plan, telling a hospital forum on

Friday that "we're pushing the system as much as I as secretary believe is ethically and legally appropriate."

But a recent scientific analysis in the journal *Annals of Internal Medicine* estimated that a "flexible" approach roughly analogous to what Biden is talking about could avert an additional 23% to 29% of COVID-19 cases when compared to the "fixed" strategy the Trump administration is following. That's assuming a steady supply of vaccine.

## Woman in widely seen hotel confrontation charged in NYC

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A 22-year-old California woman who wrongly accused a Black teenager of stealing her phone and tackled him at a New York City hotel in a widely seen video was charged after returning to the city on Saturday.

Miya Ponsetto was charged with attempted robbery, grand larceny, acting in a manner injurious to a child and two counts of attempted assault, according to city police. NYPD detectives flew to California on Thursday with a warrant for the Piru resident's arrest.

Ponsetto's confrontation with 14-year-old Keyon Harrold Jr. on Dec. 26 at Manhattan's Arlo Hotel was recorded and posted online by his father, jazz trumpeter Keyon Harrold. The video shows an agitated woman demanding the teenager's phone, claiming he stole it. The phone was found soon afterward in an Uber.

Security video released by city police shows Pon-

setto frantically grabbing at the teenager as he tried to get away from her through the hotel's front door.

The charges follow more than a week of intense media coverage of the hotel lobby encounter and demands by the teen's family and activists that she face criminal charges.

Ponsetto apologized but defended herself in a television interview conducted before she was arrested in California.

"I don't feel that that is who I am as a person. I don't feel like this one mistake does define me," she said in a "CBS This Morning" interview that aired Friday. "But I do sincerely from the bottom of my heart apologize that if I made the son feel as if I assaulted him or if I hurt his feelings or the father's feelings."

At her arraignment Saturday, the judge gave Ponsetto supervised release and granted orders of protection in favor of the victims, according to prosecutors.



# Asia

## China reports 360 cases

**BEIJING (AP)**—More than 360 people have tested positive in a growing COVID-19 outbreak south of Beijing in neighboring Hebei province.

China's National Health Commission reported Sunday that 69 new cases had been confirmed in the latest 24-hour period, including 46 in Hebei.

The outbreak has raised particular concern because of Hebei's proximity to the nation's capital. Travel between the two has been restricted, with workers from Hebei having to show proof of employment in Beijing to enter the city.

Hebei has recorded 183 confirmed cases and an additional 181 asymptomatic cases over the last eight days. China does not include those who test positive but do not show symptoms in its official case count.

Almost all the cases are in Shijiazhuang, the provincial capital, which is about 260 kilometers (160 miles) southwest of Beijing. A handful have also been found in Xingtai city, 110 kilometers (68 miles) farther south.

Both cities have conducted mass testing of millions of residents, suspended public transportation and restricted residents to their communities



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, workers walk past a temporary COVID-19 testing laboratory built on an indoor tennis court in Shijiazhuang in northern China's Hebei Province, Friday, Jan. 8, 2021.

or villages for one week.

Beijing reported one new case Sunday, bringing the number of confirmed cases to 32 in a smaller outbreak that started about three weeks ago. Almost all the cases have been in Shunyi in the city's northeastern suburbs.

In other developments in the Asia-Pacific region:

■ Japanese opposition lawmakers slammed the government's emergency declaration as too late to stem the surging coronavirus cases. They also pushed for more testing, which have lagged in Japan, being expensive and hard to get un-

less people who take them are severely ill. "It's essential to consider the worst possible scenario, but the response has always been based on an overly optimistic outlook," Yukio Edano, a former economy minister, said on public broadcaster NHK TV. Opposition lawmakers Toranosuke Katayama and Kazuo Shii also criticized the state of emergency as too limited in scope, area and duration. The declaration, which kicked in Friday, centers around asking restaurants to close at 8 p.m. It lasts a month and focuses on the Tokyo area.

Sunday located parts of the wreckage of a Boeing 737-500 at a depth of 23 meters (75 feet) in the Java Sea, a day after the aircraft with 62 people onboard crashed shortly after takeoff from Jakarta. "We received reports from the diver team that the visibility in the water is good and clear, allowing the discovery of some parts of the plane," Air Chief Marshal Hadi Tjahjanto said in a statement. "We are sure that is the point where the plane crashed." He said the objects included broken pieces of fuselage with aircraft registration parts. Earlier, rescuers pulled out body parts, pieces of clothing and scraps of metal from the surface. "Hopefully until this afternoon the current conditions and the view under the sea are still good so that we can continue the search," he said. The break in the search for Sriwijaya Air Flight 182 came after sonar equipment on a navy ship detected a signal from the aircraft at a location that fit the coordinates from the last contact made by the pilots before the plane went missing on Saturday afternoon.

It's still unclear what

caused the crash. There was no sign of survivors.

### Minister: Massive power outage leaves Pakistan in the dark

**ISLAMABAD (AP)**—A major technical fault in Pakistan's power generation and distribution system caused a massive power outage that plunged the country into darkness overnight, the energy minister said. Hours after the late Saturday outage, Energy Minister Omar Ayub said on Twitter that power was being restored in phases, starting with Islamabad. He said later Sunday that power had been restored to much of the country. The blackout was initially reported on social media by residents of major urban centers, including Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Multan. The minister and his spokesman then took to Twitter to update the country. Ayub urged people to be patient. He said the cause of the power outage was being investigated and work was being done to fire up Pakistan's main Tarbela power station in the northwest, which would lead to a restoration of power in the rest of the country in phases.

# World

## Unusual snow kills 4, brings much of Spain to a standstill

**MADRID (AP)**—A persistent blizzard blanketed large parts of Spain with an unusual amount of snow on Saturday, killing at least four people and leaving thousands trapped in cars or at train stations and airports that suspended all services.

The national weather agency reported that as of 7 a.m., the snowfall in Madrid reached a level unseen in half a century. More than 50 centimeters (20 inches) of snow fell in the Spanish capital, according to the weather agency AEMET.

The bodies of a man and woman were recovered by the Andalucía region emergency service after their car was washed away by a flooded river near the town of Fuengirola. The Interior Ministry said a 54-year-old man was also found dead in Madrid under a big pile

of snow. A homeless man died of hypothermia in the northern city of Zaragoza, the local police department reported.

More than half of Spain's provinces remained under severe weather alerts for Storm Filomena on Saturday evening, seven of them at the highest level of warning. In Madrid, authorities activated a red alert for the first time since the system was adopted four decades ago and called in the military to rescue people from vehicles trapped on everything from small roads to the city's major thoroughfares.

Sandra Morena, who became trapped late on Friday as she commuted to her night shift as a security guard in a shopping center, arrived home, on foot, after an army emergency unit helped her out on Saturday morning.

"It usually takes me 15 minutes, but this time it has been 12 hours freezing, without food or water, crying with other people because we didn't know how we were going to get out of there," said Morena, 22.

"Snow can be very beautiful but spending the night trapped in a car because of it is no fun," she added.

As of Saturday evening, Spanish security services had rescued all the people who were trapped in vehicles -- over 1,500, Interior Minister Fernando Grande-Marlaska said.

AEMET had warned that some regions would be receiving more than 24 hours of continuous snowfall due to the odd combination of a cold air mass stagnant over the Iberian Peninsula and the arrival of the warmer Storm Filomena from the south.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Russia: 7 die in fire at nursing home in western Siberia

**MOSCOW (AP)**—A fire at a nursing home in Siberia killed seven people on Saturday, Russian authorities said. The fire took place at the private home for the elderly in the Tyumen region of western Siberia. The fire also injured a resident, according to the Investigative Committee, the nation's top criminal investigation agency. Police detained the care home's owner on charges of violating safety regulations. Local officials said the home in the town of Borovsky wasn't registered with authorities.

#### Nightly curfew for pandemic takes effect across Quebec

**QUEBEC CITY (AP)**—A curfew meant to curb a surge in coronavirus infections took effect across Quebec on Saturday evening. The measure is needed to prevent gatherings that have fueled the rampant spread of the virus, Premier Francois Legault said in announcing the rules earlier in the week. The French-speaking Canadian province has a population of more than 8.4 million. "The situation is critical and a shock treatment is needed," Legault said in a Facebook post earlier Saturday. "Our hospitals are filling with COVID-19 patients. Hundreds

of people are in intensive care, fighting for their lives. Tens of people die every day." The rules will see most residents face police questions or fines of up to \$6,000 Canadian (US\$4,728) if they're out between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. for the next four weeks.

There are exceptions for essential workers, people walking dogs, and those who have medical reasons to be out, such as a doctor's appointment.

#### Israelis protest Netanyahu amid 3rd virus lockdown

**JERUSALEM (AP)**—Thousands of Israelis on Saturday renewed weekly demonstrations against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, calling for the long-serving leader to resign over corruption charges against him and his alleged mishandling of the coronavirus crisis. Protesters held signs reading "Go," and "Bibi, let my people go," referring to Netanyahu by his nickname. The protest in a Jerusalem square near Netanyahu's official residence comes as Israel is the midst of its third national lockdown, which was recently tightened to shutter schools, and as the country presses forward with a world-leading vaccination drive. Netanyahu's trial was set to resume this week, but was postponed indefinitely amid the tighter restrictions.

Netanyahu has been indicted on charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust connected to three long-running investigations. He has denied any wrongdoing and says he is the victim of a "witch hunt" by hostile media, law enforcement and judicial officials. Protesters argue that Netanyahu cannot properly lead the country while under indictment.

#### Pope Francis 'astonished' by mob attack on US Capitol

**VATICAN CITY (AP)**—Pope Francis has told an Italian broadcaster that he was "astonished" by the mob attack at the U.S. Capitol due to the democratic traditions of the United States. The pope said in an interview with Mediaset that the private broadcaster is set to air on Sunday that even "in the most mature reality, there is always something that doesn't work, people who take a path against the community, against democracy and against the common good." In a brief excerpt posted on Mediaset's website on Saturday, Francis said, "Thank God this exploded" into the open "so it can be seen, so it can be remedied." "This must be condemned, this movement, regardless of the people" involved, he said of the rioting and violence on Capitol Hill on Wednesday.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Landslides in Indonesia leave at least 11 dead

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—Two landslides triggered by heavy rain in Indonesia left at least 11 dead and 18 injured, officials said Sunday. The second landslide in Cihanjuang village in the Sumedang district of West Java province occurred as rescuers were still evacuating people following the first disaster on Saturday, said National Disaster Mitigation Agency spokesman Raditya Jati. Rescuers were among the victims, he said. The rain stopped on Saturday night. A bridge and roads were blocked by the landslides as authorities struggled to bring in heavy equipment to clear the debris. Seasonal rains and high tide in recent days have caused dozens of landslides and widespread flooding across much of Indonesia, a chain of 17,000 islands where millions of people live in mountainous areas or near fertile flood plains close to rivers.

#### Indonesian divers find parts of plane wreckage in Java Sea

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—Indonesian divers on



# Health & Wellness

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## MAYO CLINIC Q AND A

# Top 10 workout myths

**DEAR MAYO CLINIC:** I eat fairly healthy, but I want to lose weight and improve my physical wellness in the new year. I'm finding a lot of conflicting information about the best workouts for weight loss, the amount of time I need to work out and what food I should eat. Can you help me make sense of it so I can plan a routine?

**ANSWER:** Being proactive to achieve long-term health and wellness is important, and you should be proud of your efforts to set fitness goals and develop routines. However, among research, personal opinion and stereotypes, a lot of misinformation can make it hard to know what is accurate.

Here is the truth about the top 10 workout myths that you should consider as you develop your game plan:

### Myth 1: Stick solely to cardio for weight loss.

While it's true that you should include 20-30 minutes of cardio in your workout routine, focusing solely on cardio will not transform your body as quickly or as dramatically as you might think.

People perceive cardio as the ultimate solution because their heart rate is up. But in reality, you need to incorporate both cardio and strength training into your workout. Strength training builds muscles and maximizes your cardio routine. The more muscle you have, the more calories your body will burn, especially during cardio.

### Myth 2: Heavy weights will bulk you up.

Some people are concerned that adding strength training will build muscle bulk to the point that they will look like a bodybuilder. This is not true. You would have to work out excessively to do so. Start slow and add weight to build muscle, which will maximize the calories your body will burn.

### Myth 3: If you work out today, you can be lax in your diet.

Working out is important, but so is having good nutrition. You can't work off a bad diet. Food is fuel, and proper nutrition guarantees results. If you want to lose weight, your calorie output needs to be higher than your calorie input.

### Myth 4: Stretching helps prevent injuries.

If you grew up playing sports, stretching before a game was a regular routine. However, you might be surprised to learn that while stretching is beneficial—because it prepares the muscles for movement and eases your workout recovery—there is no proven research that it will reduce your chances of getting an injury. That's entirely based on your form and movements during a workout. Use functional, dynamic stretches like lunges and leg swings to help muscle movement during workouts.

### Myth 5: If the number on the scale isn't going down, you're not losing weight.

Many people focus on the num-



ber on the scale, but it is not the best representation of body changes. The number on the scale is a factor of many things, including how much water you've consumed, what you ate and when you're weighing in. Often when a person loses a significant amount of weight, the number on the scale goes up because of building muscle from exercise.

If you want to accurately track your weight loss and muscle development, record measurements of your arms, waist and thighs. And if you're going to use the scale, weigh yourself at the same time every day.

### Myth 6: Cardio machines count burned calories with 100% accuracy.

Some people depend on the treadmill to tell them an exact number of calories burned during a workout. Unfortunately, this metric isn't 100% accurate. Many factors determine how many calories your body burns, including your sex, age and current weight. Some machines allow you to enter personalized data in one or two of these factors but rarely all three.

### Myth 7: Sticking to ab workouts will give you a six-pack.

Abdominal workouts are great for developing core muscles because they benefit your body in many ways, such as improving your balance and stability. However, a person's overall body fat prevents abs from being seen. If you want six-pack abs, you have to dramatically decrease your body fat to 10%-12% for men or 11%-13% for women. While possible, this requires strict dedication to eating a healthy diet and exercising.

### Myth 8: Supplements and protein shakes are necessary after workouts.

Supplements and protein shakes are not necessary. The benefits they offer are available from natural and direct food sources, such as chocolate milk, turkey or a scoop of peanut butter. The truth is you don't need supplements and shakes to get proper nutrients. You can get those nutrients from other food sources. If you consume protein-rich foods after a workout, do so within 30 minutes.

That's when your muscles absorb that energy, as they're still burning and working.

### Myth 9: If you're not working up a sweat, you're not working hard enough.

Sweating is an inaccurate way to measure your workout. Many factors go into the amount a person sweats, such as the temperature, humidity and hydration levels. Your body just could be efficient at cooling itself, as well.

### Myth 10: No pain, no gain.

While feeling uncomfortable during a workout is normal, feeling pain is not. Many athletes live by the "no pain, no gain" motto, but pain is the way your body tells you that something is wrong. If you start to feel pain during a workout, stop immediately. If you continue to push through it, you could end up with a serious injury. (Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)

David Webster, Orthopedics, Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire, Wisconsin

## 5 tips for keeping the momentum going when working out at home

**ROCHESTER, Minn.**—Home workouts have become popular again as people stay at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can hop on a bike, perform some yoga, jump rope or follow fitness trainers who lead workouts online.

"People have been trying to find normalcy," says Jennifer Noiles, Exos performance director at Mayo Clinic Orthopedic and Sports Medicine in Rochester. "During times of stress, structure is key. Give back to yourself through movement, nourishment and exercise."

Noiles encourages you to take a thoughtful, progressive approach to exercise so your sessions don't just become a string of random workouts. Success needs a road map, she says.

Noiles offers these tips for keeping the progress and momentum in your workouts:



### Have a defined space for your workout session.

Not everyone has a separate room to dedicate to a home gym. Consider creating a space in the basement or your garage.

### Stack your habits.

For example, if the kids are up at 6:30 a.m. each morning, get in a 30-minute workout before they're up. If your work team has a daily confer-

ence call at noon, set some goals that you want to accomplish right before, during or after that call. Perhaps you aim to finish your glass of water by the time the meeting is over.

### Rely on a knowledgeable expert.

This will help take the guesswork out of your fitness and wellness program. Mayo Clinic Orthopedic and Sports Medicine and Exos have a free eight-

week workout program that incorporates strength training and wellness and nutrition tips for all ages and abilities. Learn more about the program.

### Tailor the workout to your abilities.

You may be new to exercise. Or you may be coming back after recovering from injury. Or you may be an elite athlete. Choose workouts suited to your situation.

### Rethink what success means.

Before the pandemic, you might have judged yourself by how much weight you lifted or meters you rowed. Now your goal could be creating new fitness habits in this new environment.

"To create a habit that you'll be successful at, it needs to be easy, obvious and something you'll enjoy," Noiles says. (Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)

## HEALTHY LIVING

### To lose weight – relax

Long-term stress causes chemical changes that make it harder to lose extra weight.

#### More cortisol ...

- More of this hormone increases appetite, fat around the waist and cravings for fatty, sugary foods

#### ... and less serotonin

- When the brain has less of this neurotransmitter, we crave nicotine, alcohol or high-calorie foods

Source: Suhr Institute, TNS Illustration Bank





# Life & Style

## Journalists recount harrowing attacks amid Capitol riot

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Journalists were manhandled, threatened and had their equipment stolen or damaged by supporters of President Donald Trump during this week's riot at the

U.S. Capitol.

The attacks, including a chilling scene distributed on social media of a photographer for The Associated Press being shoved around,

led the National Press Photographers Association to call on authorities to investigate and prosecute people who targeted journalists.

"To do our jobs, photojournalists must be on the front lines to record the news," the association said in a statement. "The threats, violence and aggression toward visual journalists are unconscionable acts that erode our democracy and our country's First Amendment rights."

In one striking image, the words "Murder the Media" were scrawled on an indoor doorway at the Capitol.

The AP photographer, John Minchillo, is shown in a video taken by a colleague, being pushed, pulled and punched by a group of men standing outside of the Capitol. Some

of the attackers are heard accusing him of being part of the left-wing group Antifa; Minchillo holds up his hands and show his press pass.

After about a minute, one of the demonstrators guides him away from his attackers. Minchillo stayed on the job.

Minchillo declined comment on Friday. On Twitter, he wrote, "Never become the story, that's the core principle. If I could ask for something? Don't linger on the outrage for too long."

But he asked anyone who sees his message to reflect

on the importance of journalism and subscribe to a local newspaper.

"While we are thankful he is OK, this is a reminder of the dangers journalists both in the U.S. and around the world face every day while simply trying to do their jobs," said Patrick Maks, a spokesperson for the AP.

Another group of AP journalists on Wednesday had photographic equipment stolen and trashed outside the Capitol. One picture on social media saw electrical cords tied into a noose.

Supporters of President Donald Trump rally at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, in Washington. **AP**



## Rapper DaBaby arrested on Beverly Hills weapons allegation

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.** (AP)—Grammy-nominated rapper DaBaby has been released from a Los Angeles County jail after an arrest in Beverly Hills, where police said he took a loaded gun into an upscale store on Rodeo Drive.

DaBaby, whose legal name is Jonathan Kirk, was arrested Thursday on suspicion of carrying a concealed weapon and carrying a loaded gun in a vehicle, Beverly Hills police said.

The 29-year-old was one of a group of men who walked into a store on an upscale stretch of Rodeo Drive, police

said. Store security called police after seeing a gun in one man's waistband, and officers met the men as they returned to their vehicle, police said.



DaBaby

The other men were released and DaBaby was arrested and jailed. He was freed later Thursday after posting \$35,000 bail.

He is scheduled to appear in court Monday.

An email sent to DaBaby's representatives seeking comment was not immediately returned.

The North Carolina rapper's song "Rockstar," featuring

ing Roddy Ricch, was one of the biggest hits of 2020, and is nominated for a Grammy Award for record of the year.

DaBaby's last two albums, 2019's "Kirk" and 2020's "Blame It on Baby," both reached No. 1 on the Billboard 200 album chart.

His arrest Thursday came a year after a misdemeanor battery arrest in Miami after a dispute with a club owner over payment for a performance, police said. DaBaby denied involvement in the fight.

In 2019, he pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of carrying a concealed weapon after a fatal shooting at a Walmart in Huntersville, North Carolina.

## Sentimental video tribute closes Trebek's final "Jeopardy!"

(AP)—More than two months after Alex Trebek's death, fans of "Jeopardy!" finally got the chance to say goodbye.

A video tribute to the host closed Friday's episode of the quiz show, the final one that Trebek taped before pancreatic cancer claimed his life on Nov. 8.

The 90-second montage, set to Hugh Jackman singing the Peter Allen song "Once Before I Go," is a lighthearted and laughter-filled remembrance showing Trebek's changing look

through his 36 years as host, with moustache and without, with black hair and with grey, with suits from several decades.

It celebrated the wackier moments of the usually straitlaced Trebek, showing him verbally sparring with contestants and arm-wrestling with one.

"You really make me feel inadequate," he tells a child contestant. "Sorry about that," she sassily answers.

Trebek is shown walking on the set pants-less in one clip,

dressed as the Statue of Liberty in another, and wearing the costume of a Trojan soldier in another.

A clip of the host declaring "I don't dance" is shown amid scenes of him dancing through the years.

The tribute is still plenty sad and sentimental, though, as Jackman sings "it's so hard to say good-byes, when there's so much that's left unspoken in your eyes," and "once before I go, I would like to let you know, that I would do it all again."

## Queen Elizabeth II and husband receive COVID-19 vaccinations

**LONDON** (AP)—Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Philip, have received their COVID-19 vaccinations, royal officials said Saturday.

Buckingham Palace officials said in a statement that the 94-year-old monarch and Philip, 99, received their jabs Saturday, joining some 1.5 million people in Britain who have been given a first dose of a vaccine.

The injections were administered at Windsor Castle, where the queen and her husband have been spending their time during the lockdown in England.

Royal officials said they took the rare step of commenting on the monarch's health in order to prevent inaccuracies and further speculation. The queen "decided that she would

let it be known she has had the vaccination," the palace statement said.

On Dec. 8, Britain became the world's first country to begin a mass vaccination drive against the coronavirus. The government says it is aiming to deliver the first vaccine doses to some 15 million people in the top priority groups by the middle of February.

## Pastor having affair keeps his engagement under wraps

**DEAR ABBY:** A new single pastor was assigned to my church. He asked if I was single and if I had kids. I told him no, and we began having an affair.

For two years, it was all in secret. Then I began noticing that a single lady from his previous church would visit. He told me she was concerned about him being alone, so she was stopping by on her way through.

Well, I now know she was more than that. While he was having his affair with me, he was engaged to her. When I confronted him, he denied it. They got married in secret, and he didn't tell the church until afterward. Everyone was shocked because he talked so much about being an open book and being truthful. I was and still am in shock. I love my church, but I hate my pastor. Should I leave?

**HURTING IN SECRET**

**DEAR HURTING:** I smell a rat, and it's coming from the pulpit. Your pastor misrepresented himself. His affair with you was, to say the least, unethical and should be discussed with the governing board of your church. You were taken advantage of. One of you should leave.

■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** I endured an arduous decade-long marriage with a subsequent nasty divorce and custody battle. This was followed by years of contentious child rearing with my ex.

With my children now grown, I am free to spend my money the way I want and have absolute freedom. I live alone, and quite frankly, I love my life. I am 100% sure that I want to remain unmarried.

When people ask me about getting remarried, I tell them "never again," and I mean it. Yet, inevitably, people say, "You never know, you might get married again someday." Abby, I DO know. It's been more than 20 years.

I used to get annoyed, but now I just blow it off. Do you have any retort that doesn't sound rude? I have thought about saying, "I guess you know me better than I know myself," but it sounds snarky.

**BEFUDDLED IN FLORIDA**

**DEAR BEFUDDLED:** If blowing off the questions no longer works for you, try this: Smile at the person and say, "That would involve TWO willing people, and I'm not receptive. But thank you for the kind thought." And then change the subject.

■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been having some emotional turmoil. I'm feeling depressed and hopeless. I know I need to tell my parents, but I'm too scared. I'm afraid they will brush it off or blame me. It's really affecting my life. Please give me some advice on how to break the news.

## DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*



**GIRL WITH A PROBLEM IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**DEAR GIRL:** Many people are experiencing feelings similar to the ones you are. The worst thing you can do is keep them to yourself. Be brave. Tell your parents about your depression and turmoil. If they are disbelieving, confide in a teacher or the parent of a close friend so they can advise your parents on getting you professional help if it is necessary. My thoughts are with you, and I hope you feel better soon.

■■■

*To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*



# Pastimes

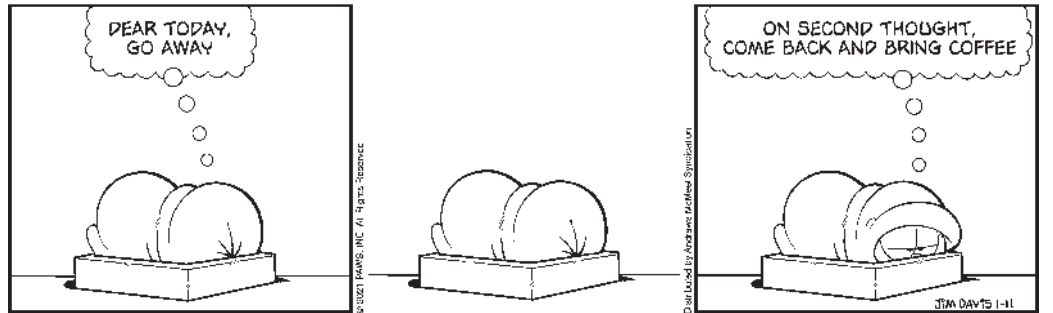
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



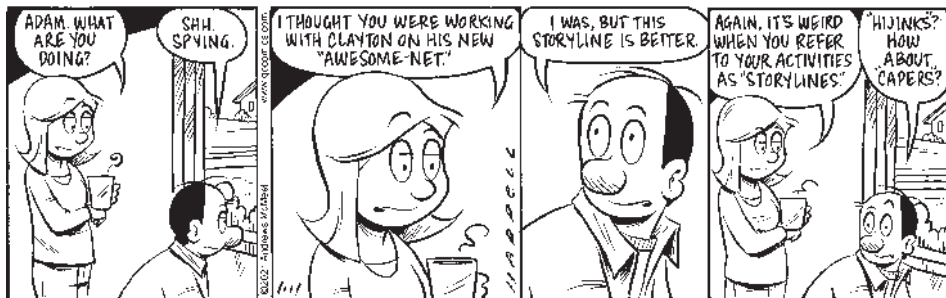
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Wee bite  
4 Lawman  
9 Architect  
12 Bedazzle  
13 High nest  
14 URL  
15 Paintings  
17 Brazilian  
18 Football  
19 Loose  
21 "Hooray!"  
24 Merit  
25 Green  
26 Genetic  
28 Stylish  
31 Legal  
33 Roman  
35 Slender  
36 Prefix  
38 Reply

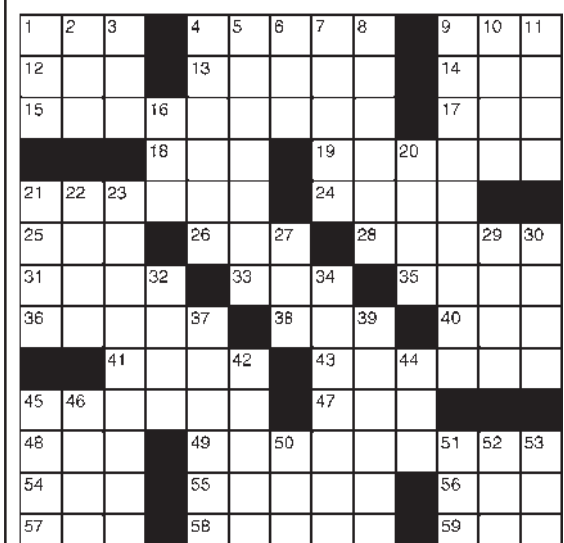
**DOWN**

1 Snooze  
2 — Jima  
3 For each  
4 More  
5 Happen-  
6 "Entou-  
7 New  
8 Electric  
9 Ship's  
10 Buffalo's  
11 Borodin's  
16 Spigot  
20 Bygone  
21 Bigfoot's  
22 PC  
23 Acting  
27 In the  
29 Roster  
30 911 re-  
32 Stumble  
34 Spurred  
37 Takes  
39 Columns  
42 Vermont  
44 Rock's  
45 Verifiable  
46 Lighten  
50 Stimpy's  
51 Cover  
52 Debtor's  
53 Count

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

**Last Friday's Answer 01/11**

LIU PAS CORGI  
IMS ATT OREOS  
MAH CHECK ROOM  
AGE TERRE  
SERF NNE CALF  
PANDA ELOPED  
SLEEPY AGO  
ALEX ES AVEC  
RATIC EVA  
ROOMCHECK SIR  
MANIA MIA TAO  
STAGS SAY SNL



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

## CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Amanda Peet, 49; Mary J. Blige, 50; Kim Coles, 59; Naomi Judd, 75.

**Happy Birthday:** A change will motivate you to concentrate on the people and things you enjoy and to eliminate tedious situations that bog you down. Learn to say no, and it will be easier to deal with high-demand people who occupy too much of your time. Make romance and physical challenges that you find stimulating priorities. Your numbers are 3, 12, 23, 24, 32, 35, 41.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** The changes going on around you will be a sign of what's to come. Analyze every scenario carefully. Preparation and using intelligence are your best alternatives. Call on someone you trust to offer a second opinion. Keep your emotions under control. ★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Reach out to experts and those who have helped you in the past. Invest time, money and effort into a lifelong goal. A surprise will put you in a unique position with more options than you originally anticipated. Romance is in the stars. ★★★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Keep your wits about you. Look at every possibility; gather information that will help you make the best decision. Don't be a follower. Do your own thing, and follow the path that excites you most. Play by the rules. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Partnerships will make a difference. Choose people who have something to contribute, not those who compliment and ride your

coattails. Collaborate with someone who has the skills you lack. Celebrate with someone you love, and it will enhance your relationship. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Confusion will set in regarding work and what you want to pursue. Be observant, and you will recognize what lies ahead. A change may not be welcome initially, but it will push you to create an opportunity to do something you enjoy. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Set up a place at home conducive to learning something new or that gives you the space to exercise or do something physical. Focus on strength, fitness and being at your very best. Nurture and romance a meaningful relationship. ★★★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Question anything and anyone who makes you feel the least bit uncertain. Knowledge is critical when dealing with shared expenses, investments and contracts. Take better care of your health, diet and possessions. A risk will set you back. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Choose personal change over trying to alter someone. Getting along with friends and family is encouraged. Use your imagination, and you'll deter others from putting you on the spot. Concentrate on love, peace and happiness, not meddling or discord. ★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Remembering what's happened will help you make better decisions. Be resourceful, check facts and question anything appears suspicious. Know who you are dealing with, and protect your reputation, possessions and loved ones. ★★

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD  
IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Take action, put your plan into play and refuse to let anyone get in your way. Let past occurrences guide you to make a better decision now regarding money matters, health and contracts. Romance is encouraged. ★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Look for the positive in every situation you face. Concentrate on what you can accomplish, and stop worrying about what you leave undone. Spend more time sorting through clutter and eliminating what is no longer of use to you. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You'll gain insight into how best to use your time and skills to reach your goal. A promotion or positive change will result in greater cash flow and connection to people who can help you advance. Romance is in the stars. ★★★★★

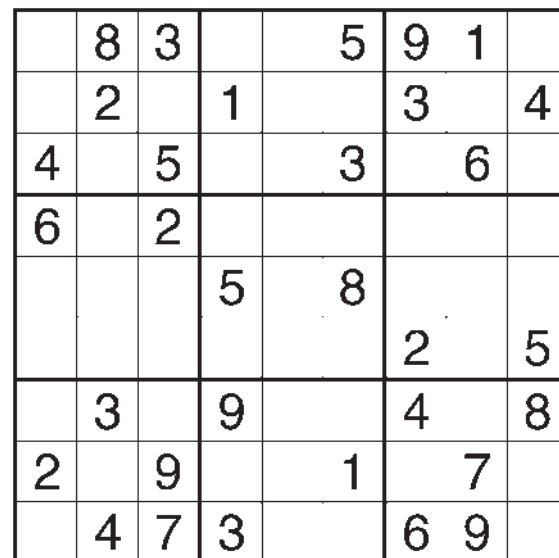
**Birthday Baby:** You are persistent, active and taciturn. You are pioneering and self-sufficient.

Visit [Eugenialast.com](http://Eugenialast.com), or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2021 Andrews McMeel Syndication

## SUDOKU

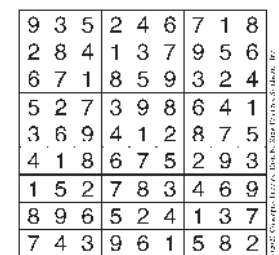
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★

1/11

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## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DUBUQUE, IOWA

Solution: 9 letters

R S O L O N A Y R W E R D N A  
O U N I A P S F O S E N I M D  
N A T E G D O D L O U B Y O J  
A M E P A C K E R S Y G O R U  
M A T R O P C E L T I W L A B  
A S E A G A R N L K O D C E  
T T W R R R E L E U C A M O C  
H E D O P K W I E U J K I O K  
I R B L D T G R S W D U L M E  
A P Q F S A C T F T A K L U Y  
S I B U N K E R H I L L S E W  
H E R A L D H M E R V W N S E  
A C A R E N O Y T X I S S U S  
M E S K W A K I S H P R U M T  
S E K U L T S S E L T F I R D

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Amy Gilligan, Andrew Ryan, Bunker Hill, Buol, Care, Creek Wood, Deer, Dodge, Driftless, Flora, Herald, Juback, Julie, KATF, KDTH, Key West, KGRF, Locust, Manor, Masterpiece, Mathias Ham, Maus, Meadows, Meskwaki, Mills, Mines of Spain, Moracco, Murph's, Museum, Old Mill, Packers, Park, Port, Solon, St. Luke's, U.S. Sixty-one, U.S. Twenty, Walnut, WDBQ, WVRE

Last Friday's Answer: Person

To purchase WONDERWORD books.

visit [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com), or call 1-800-642-6480.



# Bills beat Colts for 1st playoff win since '95



**NEW YORK** (AP)—A quarter-century ago, the Buffalo Bills won a playoff game. Now, they have another victory.

They even figured out how to stop a Hail Mary.

Buffalo (14-3) snapped an 0-6 postseason skid with a 27-24 victory Saturday against Indianapolis (11-6). The previous playoff win was over Miami on Dec. 30, 1995. And it came in the Bills' first home playoff game in 24 years, with a limited number of 6,700 fans in attendance for the first time this season.

Josh Allen threw two touchdown passes, scored another rushing, and Micah Hyde batted down Philip Rivers' desperation pass to end the game. Buffalo will host an AFC divisional-round game.

"It doesn't matter how it looks," Allen said. "It's the playoffs. It's win or go home and we got it done. We've got to turn our focus to whoever we got next week."

In Buffalo's last loss before winning its next six games and the AFC East crown, Hyde was one of three defenders who failed to knock down the ball. DeAndre Hopkins' 43-yard leaping catch on Kyler Murray's desperation throw—the "Hail Murray"—won that game for Arizona. The Bills learned from it, and Philip Rivers' heave for T. Y. Hilton was incomplete.

"It's been a long time since Bills Mafia has been able to celebrate like this," Allen said. "But it's one game."

## Buccaneers 31, Washington 23

New team, same swash-buckling playoff success for Tom Brady.

Brady threw for 381 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Tampa Bay Buccaneers past Washington in their NFC wild-card game Saturday night for their first playoff victory since the 2002 season.

"If you could win 100-0, its going to be the same result in the end," Brady said. "It's



**AP**  
Tyquan Lewis (94) of the Indianapolis Colts tackles Zack Moss (20) of the Buffalo Bills during the second half of an NFL wild-card playoff game Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021, in Orchard Park, N.Y.

we knew that part of the game wasn't going to be in there."

But Heinicke wasn't enough to overcome Brady's brilliance. While Bill Belichick and the Patriots watch from home with their playoff streak snapped at 11 following a 7-9 season, Brady has the opportunity to play in another Super Bowl—in his new home stadium.

The Buccaneers await the result of Chicago at New Orleans on Sunday to see if they'll be visiting Drew Brees and the Saints or host the Los Angeles Rams next weekend. They'd need a Bears upset to play at home in the divisional round.

"It doesn't matter," Arians said. "We're playing. That's all that matters."

## Rams 30, Seahawks 20

A dominant defense that even was without unanimous All-Pro tackle Aaron Donald for much of the second half was decisive for Los Angeles. A pick-6 by Darius Williams of Russell Wilson, who seemed rattled all game, was a major contributor, as were five sacks, two by Donald.

"A lot of guys stepped up and answered the bell in a big way," Rams coach Sean McVay said. "Darius Williams showing up, I thought that was a huge momentum shift for us."

Cam Akers rushed for 131 yards and a touchdown, and Jared Goff, though shaky for portions of the game, replaced injured starting quarterback John Wolford early on and avoided major mistakes. Less than two weeks after undergoing surgery on his right thumb, Goff capped the victory with a 15-yard touchdown pass to Robert Woods.

"I think it was really just a stinger. He definitely seemed good," McVay said of Wolford.

## NFL PLAYOFFS



good to win and advance."

In his 42nd postseason start and first not in a New England Patriots uniform, Brady made the most of a lack of pressure to carve up the NFL's second-ranked defense on 22 of 40 passing.

"He is a fighter, he plays hard, works hard and studies hard, and he is the man for the job," Buccaneers running back Leonard Fournette said.

Brady had to outduel Washington's Taylor Heinicke, who had a breakout performance

in just his second pro start and first in the playoffs in place of injured starter Alex Smith. Heinicke—signed in early December to the practice squad—ran for 46 yards and a touchdown and threw for 306 yards and a score.

"He almost beat us with his legs," Tampa Bay coach Bruce Arians said. "He was very elusive. We knew he was going to scramble around, there was going to be bootlegs and scrambles. We were really hoping for Alex because



**NEW YORK**—The New York

Mets are acquiring Francisco Lindor and Carlos Carrasco in a trade with the Cleveland Indians, a move befitting the big splash fans have expected from new billionaire owner Steve Cohen.

ESPN's Jeff Passan was first to report a deal to send Lindor to Queens is going to happen. MLB.com's Mark Feinsand reported Carrasco will be part of the deal too. The Indians made it official soon after.

## Mets dealing for Cleveland stars Lindor, Carrasco

For the Mets, it's a big step toward becoming contenders immediately in the Cohen era, and providing insurance if they don't acquire top free agent pitcher Trevor Bauer. For the Indians, it begs the question of whether this opens a rebuilding window and other players might be available in trade.

The trade will send shortstops Amed Rosario and Andrés Giménez, pitching

prospect Josh Wolf and outfield prospect Isaiah Greene to Cleveland. Rosario is a 25-year-old, once considered the Mets' shortstop of the future. Giménez is a 22-year-old who played 49 games last season as a rookie. Wolf and Greene are both minor leaguers, with Greene just being drafted last year. Wolf and Greene were ranked near the back of the Mets' top 10 prospects.

Lindor, 27, is one of the faces of MLB. He will be a free agent after 2021 and the cost-conscious Indians, who made themselves long shots to re-sign him, eventually made it clear they would trade him instead of trying. The Mets, on the other hand, have the money and ambition to secure his services for the foreseeable future.

Carrasco, 33, has two years left before free agency. He had

a 2.91 ERA for the Indians last season and strengthens a Mets rotation that already includes perennial Cy Young candidate Jacob deGrom.

In their ideal world, the Mets are hoping this ends up like last year's blockbuster trade that sent Mookie Betts to the Dodgers. L.A. then signed Betts long term before the season even started. That deal was for \$365 million over 12 years. That would figure to

at least set the goalposts for a Lindor extension.

The Mets wouldn't trade two shortstops of the future if they didn't have hopes of resigning Lindor and a strong belief that it's a possibility.

Trading away Lindor and Carrasco signaled a return to being one of MLB's smallest payrolls. Cleveland's payroll for 2021 would be around \$40 million, according to Roster Resource, less than half of what it was slated to be in 2020 (before the pandemic measures cut the actual dollars spent).



# LaMelo hits triple-double, Hornets top Hawks



**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)**—LaMelo Ball isn't wasting any time making an impact in the NBA.

The rookie point guard became the youngest player in league history to record a triple-double with 22 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists on Saturday night, helping the Charlotte Hornets beat the Atlanta Hawks 113-105 for their third straight win.

"A 19-year-old rookie does not look like this," Hornets coach James Borrego said. "This is rare what you're seeing."

Ball's history-making performance came just two nights after he missed out on his first triple-double when he finished with 12 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists in a win over his brother Lonzo's New Orleans Pelicans.

He said he hasn't begun to process the accomplishment.

"I live my life and I know what I'm capable of, so stuff like doesn't move me like that," Ball said. "I know that's supposed to happen."

Ball replaced Markelle Fultz as the youngest NBA player to record a triple-double by 177 days.

"He's a tall PG who can pass, can rebound and he's a smart player," said Atlanta's Trae Young. "Things are going to become even easier for him in this league as he plays more and more games."

Terry Rozier had 23 points to lead the Hornets.

Cam Reddish scored 21 points and De'Andre Hunter had 20 for the Hawks. Young struggled all night, shooting 5 of 19 from the floor to finish with 15 points and 10 assists.

Ball tied his highest scoring night on 9-of-13 shooting from the field as the Hornets handed the struggling Hawks their fourth straight loss. He became only the fifth rookie in NBA history to record a triple-double and the first Hornets player to do it coming off the bench.



Atlanta Hawks center Clint Capela (15) fouls Charlotte Hornets guard LaMelo Ball (2) during the second half of an NBA game in Charlotte, N.C., Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021.

Josh Richardson and Dorian Finney-Smith and backup point guard Jalen Brunson sidelined by COVID-19 protocols. The three Mavericks didn't return with the team from Denver following a 124-117 overtime win Thursday.

Hardaway and Burke made it a rather quiet second triple-double of the season for Doncic, combining to 15 of 21 from 3-point range while the star point guard had 20 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists.

## Suns 125, Pacers 117

Mikal Bridges scored a career-high 34 points and Devin Booker added 25, leading Phoenix over Indiana.

Phoenix pulled into a tie with the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers for the best record in the Western Conference at 7-3 after earning its first road win over the Pacers since 2016.

All-Star forward Domantas Sabonis had 28 points and matched his career high with 22 rebounds for the Pacers, who had a two-game winning streak snapped.

Phoenix used a late first-half run to take a 56-53 half-time lead, then opened the second half by scoring the first five points.

## Nuggets 115, 76ers 103

Nikola Jokic had 15 points and 12 assists to lead Denver past Philadelphia, beating a 76ers team that had only seven available players because of injuries and COVID-19 protocols.

The Sixers tipped without four regular starters—All-Stars Ben Simmons (sore left knee) and Joel Embiid (back) due to injury, and Seth Curry and Tobias Harris over virus concerns. Coach Doc Rivers said he didn't think the game should be played.

Curry learned of his positive coronavirus test while the team played Thursday in Brooklyn, and the additional testing, contact tracing and COVID-19 health and safety protocols led to a slew of unavailable players.

The team met the minimum eight active players by including injured forward Mike Scott, who was not actually able to play.

## Bucks 100, Cavaliers 90

Khris Middleton scored 27 points and Milwaukee withstood the absence of two-time reigning MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo to beat Cleveland.

Antetokounmpo sat out with back spasms after taking a hard fall one night earlier in a loss to the Utah Jazz.

Bobby Portis replaced Antetokounmpo in Milwaukee's starting lineup and scored 17 points as the Bucks (6-4) closed a five-game home stretch in which they went 4-1. After Jrue Holiday made the game's first basket, Portis scored the Bucks' next 10 points.

The Bucks overcame a huge performance from Cleveland's Andre Drummond, who had 26 points and 24 rebounds. Drummond was the first Cavalier to have at least 20 points and 20 rebounds in the same game since Anderson Varejao did it against Boston on Jan. 31, 2012.

## Heat 128, Wizards 124

Tyler Herro scored a career-high 31 points and Jimmy Butler nearly had a triple-double with 26 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists as Miami beat short-handed Washington.

Washington played without the NBA's leading scorer, Bradley Beal, who was a late scratch when he was placed in the NBA's health and safety protocol.

Miami has alternated wins and losses through its first eight games. The Wizards lost their third straight and are winless in five home games.

They were also without their other starting guard, Russell Westbrook, out with a left quad injury. Westbrook, who had triple-doubles in his first four games with the Wizards, was intending to play the second half of a back-to-back for the first time after sitting out the first two.

## Spurs 125, Timberwolves 122, OT

DeMar DeRozan scored 38 points, helping San Antonio

beat Minnesota in Karl-Anthony Towns' return to the Timberwolves.

DeRozan, who went 13 for 23 from the floor and 12 of 13 from the line, had 13 points after the third quarter and keyed San Antonio's third straight victory with his relentless drives to the basket. Dejounte Murray (22 points) and Patty Mills (21 points) knocked down plenty of timely 3-pointers.

Towns, who missed the last six games with a partial dislocation of his left wrist, had 25 points and 13 rebounds in 37 minutes as Minnesota's losing streak hit seven games.

## Mavericks 112, Magic 98

Tim Hardaway Jr. scored a season-high 36 points, Trey Burke did the same with 29 and Luka Doncic had another triple-double as short-handed Dallas beat Orlando.

Hardaway and Burke took on expanded roles to help Dallas get over .500 for the first time this season with starters

is handling things, particularly after Philadelphia's Seth Curry left the bench mid-game after getting a positive coronavirus test.

The case of Los Angeles Lakers guard Alex Caruso may be an interesting one to look at to see all of the types of contact with the virus that may trigger protocols. Following the Lakers win on Friday over Chicago, Caruso told reporters that he missed over a week of action because he came in contact with someone who tested positive for the coronavirus over the Christmas holiday.

## Tatum, Beal in quarantine

The Boston Celtics will reportedly be without one of their best players for at least 10 days. Forward Jayson Tatum is expected to go into quarantine under the league's COVID-19 protocols, according to reports.

The situation appears to have also taken out Washington Wizards star Bradley Beal, whom later reported was out for Saturday's game against the Miami Heat due to health and safety protocols. According to reports, the league is concerned about

Beal having been in close proximity to Tatum during a postgame conversation on Friday.

Tatum, 22, played 35 minutes against the Wizards on Friday. He scored 32 points in the 116-107 Celtics win, while Beal posted 41 points.

It's unclear whether Tatum tested positive for the virus, or if he's considered a close contact to someone who tested positive. The Celtics played Friday's game without three players—Tristan Thompson, Grant Williams

and Robert Williams—due to the league's health and safety protocols.

The Celtics' updated injury report for Sunday's game against the visiting Heat listed Tatum as doubtful due to health and safety protocols. Jaylen Brown, Javonte Green and Semi Ojeleye are listed as questionable.

Losing Tatum comes at a bad time for the Celtics. After starting the season 1-2, the team has won 6 of its last 7 games. Tatum has been a major part of that, averaging 27.7 point over that period.

Tatum would miss four

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	7	3	.700	0.0
Boston	7	3	.700	0.0
New York	5	4	.556	1.5
Brooklyn	5	5	.500	2.0
Toronto	2	6	.250	4.0
Central				
Indiana	6	3	.667	0.0
Milwaukee	6	4	.600	0.5
Cleveland	5	5	.500	1.5
Chicago	4	6	.400	2.5
Detroit	2	7	.222	4.0
Southeast				
Orlando	6	4	.600	0.0
Charlotte	5	5	.500	1.0
Miami	4	4	.500	1.0
Atlanta	4	5	.444	1.5
Washington	2	8	.200	4.0

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Pacific	W	L	PCT	GB
Phoenix	7	3	.700	0.0
LA Lakers	7	3	.700	0.0
LA Clippers	6	4	.600	1.0
Golden State	5	4	.556	1.5
Sacramento	4	6	.400	3.0
Southwest				
Dallas	5	4	.556	0.0
San Antonio	5	4	.556	0.0
New Orleans	4	5	.444	1.0
Houston	3	4	.429	1.0
Memphis	3	6	.333	2.0
Northwest				
Utah	5	4	.556	0.0
Portland	5	4	.556	0.0
Oklahoma City	4	4	.500	0.5
Denver	4	5	.444	1.0
Minnesota	2	7	.222	3.0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Senior IOC member not sure Tokyo Games will happen

**TOKYO** (AP)—A senior member of the International Olympic Committee has said he “can’t be certain” the postponed Tokyo Olympics will open in just over six months because of the surging pandemic in Japan and elsewhere.

The comments by Canadian IOC member Richard Pound to British broadcaster the BBC came as Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga declared a state of emergency on Thursday for Tokyo and surrounding prefectures.

“I can’t be certain because the ongoing elephant in the room would be the surges in the virus,” Pound said speaking about the future of the Tokyo Games.

Japan’s emergency order, which is largely voluntary, will be in force until the first week of February.

Tokyo reported a record of 2,447 new cases on Thursday, a 50% increase from the previous day—which was also a record day. Japan has attributed over 3,500 deaths to COVID-19, relatively low for a country of 126 million.

It’s crunch time for Tokyo.



Organizers say the Olympics will take place, but they are not expected to reveal concrete plans until spring. That’s about the same time the torch relay begins on March 25 with 10,000 runners crisscrossing the country for four months leading to the opening ceremony on July 23.

Pound also hinted athletes

should be a high priority for a vaccine because they serve as “role models.” Pound’s comments seem to contradict IOC President Thomas Bach.

Bach said in a visit to Tokyo in November that athletes should be encouraged to get a vaccine, but would not be required to. He also indicated they should not be a priority. Bach

said that nurses, doctors and health care workers should be first in line for a vaccine, ahead of healthy, young athletes.

“Athletes are important role models, and by taking the vaccine they can send a powerful message that vaccination is not only about personal health, but also about solidarity and consideration for the

A man rides a bicycle near the Olympic rings floating in the water in the Odaiba section Friday, Jan. 8, 2021 in Tokyo.

well-being of others in their communities,” Pound said.

Pound went further in a separate interview with British broadcaster Sky News. He said giving athletes priority might be “the most realistic way of going ahead.”

“In Canada where we might have 300 or 400 athletes—to take 300 or 400 vaccines out of several million in order to have Canada represented at international even of this stature, character and level—I don’t think there would be any kind of public outcry about that,” he said.

Reports suggest that the vaccine rollout in Japan is likely to be slowed by the need for local clinical trials. Some vaccines might not be readily available until May, although Suga said some would be ready in February.

The Japanese public is becoming skeptical. A poll of 1,200 people last month by

national broadcaster NHK showed 63% favored another postponement or cancellation.

The IOC has said the Olympics, first delayed by the coronavirus pandemic in 2020, will not be postponed again and would be canceled this time.

The budget for the Tokyo Olympics is also soaring. The new official budget is \$15.4 billion, which is \$2.8 billion above the previous budget.

The new costs are from the delay.

Several audits by the Japanese government have said the costs are closer to at least \$25 billion. The

University of Oxford in a study published four months ago said these are the most expensive Summer Olympics on record. This was before the cost of the delay was added.

All but \$6.7 billion of Olympic funding is public money.

Meanwhile, Japan is halting a public display of the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic torches as new virus cases jump in the country and Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga orders a state of emergency for Tokyo and the surrounding areas until next month

## MINI

From Page 20

for \$299,584. This was part of the \$600,665 that NMIFA receive from AFC to rebuild the damage caused by Typhoon Yutu at the NMI Soccer Training Center. Funding was sourced from two AFC Committees—the \$374,538 was from the AFC President’s Infrastructure Initiative of the Development Committee and \$226,127 was from the Dream Asia Foundation of the Social Responsibility Committee,” NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta said.

NMIFA sought help in rebuilding the facility that bore the brunt of the Category 5 typhoon and less than a month after Yutu flattened the island, AFC responded and sent its officials to Saipan to assess the damage sustained by the NMISTC.

“NMIFA would like to thank the leadership of AFC for the financial support. I would also like to personally thank

Domeka Garamendi, head of MA Services, and Sonam Jigmi, Development Officer, both of the AFC Development Division for their guidance and assistance in securing the grant for the rehabilitation projects,” Zapanta said.

After Garamendi’s visit to Saipan in November 2018, AFC issued a bid or tender for the project mid 2019 and the winning contractor Velocity Sports Equipment SDN BHD of Malaysia sent a representative to Saipan in February last year to assess the facility. Reconstruction was supposed to start two months after the assessment or from April to June, but was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Shipment of construction materials was also delayed, while representatives of the contractor tasked to oversee the project failed to travel to Saipan due to the pandemic. These challenges led to hiring of a subcontractor—the USA Fanter Corp.—to get the

job done in time for the AFC deadline on Dec. 31.

“There were a few days when work was suspended because of heavy rains. Fortunately, USA Fanter had sufficient manpower and equipment to actually complete the work in only about a month. But that included working on Saturdays, Sundays, and even holidays,” the NMIFA official said.

## Better facility

Though the reconstruction work was done in just a short period of time, NMIFA assured that the “new” mini pitch is better than the first one and has a couple of new features.

Besides rebuilding the sub-base for the artificial turf and installing an artificial turf, the mini pitch now has a 6-meter ball stop around the facility.

Zapanta said the old mini pitch only had ball stop fence behind goal areas and only the west and north sides of the pitch have a 4-foot cyclone wire fence. The all-around ball stop

fence will keep balls inside the turf covered area of the pitch.

“Another new feature are the drainage pipes that were installed within the layers of the sub-base. The purpose is for rain water to drain faster beneath the surface of the turf,” he added.

Zapanta reiterated that reconstruction of the mini pitch and other improvement works at the NMISTC would not be made possible without the continued support of AFC, under the leadership of its president Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa.

It is through the help of AFC, the East Asian Football Confederation, and other partners of the NMIFA that the association manages to continue to provide programs and services to the CNMI football community.

The completion of the reconstruction work at the NMISTC mini pitch came less than a month after the NMIFA gained full membership status from AFC.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

An aerial view of the reconstructed mini/secondary pitch at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

## KWON

From Page 20

difference with this tournament from others is the ongoing pandemic. It’s always a learning experience to be able to adapt with the current times, but I definitely look forward to future tournaments,” he said.

ments,” he said.

The Rollers holiday hoops had competitions for U12, U17, U19, and women’s divisions and drew 14 teams. The event was supported by Pacific Amusement QQ Rent A Car, MARPAC, SuperTech, Sun Palace, and JVJ Faith Lawncare.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rollers Blue’s Jeff Sagum takes a banked shot against a Sun Palace defender during their U19 title game in the Rollers 2020 Holiday Tournament at the Koblerville Gymnasium early this month.





**Bills beat  
Colts for 1st  
playoff win  
since '95**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**LaMelo hits  
triple-double,  
Hornets top  
Hawks**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Mini pitch at NMISTC done



By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**R**econstruction of the mini/secondary pitch at NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville has been completed after going through several challenges, according to the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

The facility replaced the one that was totally damaged by Super Typhoon Yutu in 2018. NMIFA received funding

from the Asian Football Confederation to rebuild the mini pitch that sits on the west



side of the NMISTC's main pitch. Reconstruction started last Nov. 26, 2020 and was com-

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Top photo shows the reconstructed secondary pitch at the NMI Soccer Training Center, while at the bottom photo, the artificial turf of the facility was ripped off after Super Typhoon Yutu struck Saipan in 2018.

pleted last Dec. 31.

"AFC totally funded the reconstruction of the mini pitch. The mini pitch contract was

**See MINI on Page 19**

## Kwon makes grade as Rollers tournament head

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Long-time Rollers Basketball Association member Ethan Kwon was not able to compete in the Rollers 2020 Holiday Tournament, but he made sure his teammates and players from other teams did.

Kwon was the tournament director of the holiday hoops that ran from Dec. 19 to Jan. 2 at the Koblerville Gymnasium and the first 5-on-5 basketball event held at this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"With the current situation it was definitely a challenge, as our biggest priority was the players' safety," said Kwon, who has been playing for the Rollers in the last nine years.

"Unfortunately, that meant we couldn't have fans at games and teams were limited with roster size. We wanted to make sure that we follow all the guidelines and protocols that were set by the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force. As the tournament director, I was tasked to make sure we have these measures in place and ran the competition as smoothly as possible, whether it be through creating custom sign-in sheets for

volunteers handling the gate or clearing and sanitizing the gym for the next game,"

Kwon said.

Rollers founder and head coach Joe Diaz credited Kwon for the success of the tournament at these challeng-

ing times and for showing leadership and organization.

Each game in the holiday caging had a big gap to avoid overcrowding and every person entering the venue had his/her temperature checked and recorded. Footage of the matches, especially the title games, were also posted on the Rollers' Facebook page for parents and fans to see, while Kwon took pictures of the matches and the awards ceremony and monitored the officials table during the championship games.

"It was a group effort with all the coaches, players/volunteers and the Rollers Basketball Association officers pitching in and assisting one another. I couldn't have done it without them," said Kwon, adding that he would gladly accept a similar task in the future.

"After each tournament you learn and see which areas you can possibly improve on. The only real

**See KWON on Page 19**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ethan Kwon, seen here in red and white uniform facing head coach Joe Diaz, turned from player to tournament director during the Rollers Basketball Association 2020 Holiday Tournament.